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7 June 1982

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2517

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CARICOM MAKES DECISIONS ON REGIONAL TRADE, PRICES

Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 9 May 82 p 3

[Text]

Roseau, Dominica,
Saturday, (CANA) —
DOMINICA is to export 380
tons of copra to Jamaica by
December, according to
government officials in
Roseau.

The decision was taken at
the 16th Caribbean Com-
munity (CARICOM) Oils and
Fats Conference held in
Guyana on April 28 and 29.

Dominica was represented
by Raymond Austrie,
Agricultural Officer in the
Ministry of Agriculture, and
Alva Bellot, accountant at
Dominica Coconut Products
Limited.

The conference also gave
Dominica the go-ahead to
import 1 000 tons of soya beans
from extra-regional sources.
Some 720 tons of oil produced
from the soya bean is ear-
marked for the CARICOM
market.

The meeting also discussed
the need for a regional coconut
industry development project,
and draft terms of reference
for the scheme will be
presented to the governments

for comments and recom-
mendations.

The project became
necessary because of the
growing adverse situation in
the region with regard to the
supply for oils and fats raw
materials, the officials said.

The conference also
recognised the need to protect
the regional markets for
several types of soap —
laundry, toilet and medicated
— from unfair extra-regional
competition.

Although the region is self-
sufficient in the production of
laundry soaps, the Caribbean
soap industry has failed to
meet the growing demand for
medicated and toilet soaps,
the officials said.

This was said to have
resulted in increased imports
of the soaps from extra-
regional sources.

The meeting agreed that the
price for copra, refined and
crude oil will remain until
December.

The 17th CARICOM Oils and
Fats Conference will be held
in Montserrat in October.

CSO: 3025/292

CDB REPORT SHOWS INCREASE IN LOAN APPROVALS FOR CARIBBEAN

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 12 May 82 p 11

[Text]

The Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) last year had net loan approvals of US \$48 million (Bds \$96 million), an increase of 39.1 per cent over the 1980 figure.

This has been stated in the bank's annual report which has been presented to its Board of Directors meeting now being held in St. Lucia.

Barbados' Deputy Prime Minister, Bernard St. John, a CDB Governor, is attending the bank's Board of Governors meeting which begins in Castries today and runs until Thursday. It will be addressed by St. Lucia's Prime Minister John Compton and CDB President, William Demas, CHB.

The annual report in pointing out that the bank maintained a high level of loan disbursements last year, stated that it also recorded a significant increase in loan approvals. It added that the Less Developed Member Countries continued to get the larger share of funds ap-

proved and disbursed.

According to the report "loan disbursements at US \$55.1 million maintain the high level of US \$56.6 million achieved in 1980 reflecting sustained emphasis on project implementation and supervision," adding that cumulative financing approvals passed the US \$350 million mark to reach US \$360.1 million.

The CDB report looking at its performance as a bank, said, it recorded its highest ever net income of US \$3.7 million, an increase of 54 per cent over the 1980 figure.

During the past year, the CDB saw the raising of new financial loans through.

— Bond issue of US \$10 million successfully floated on the Trinidad and Tobago capital market for use in the bank's ordinary operations;

— Further contributions of US \$2.1 million from Canada, US \$5 million from Sweden and US \$8 million from Venezuela to the Special

Development Fund; and

— Further contribution of US \$16 million under the Caribbean Development Facility by USAID.

The report stated that the CDB continued to work closely with regional organisations and institutions to further develop regional economic integration.

At the end of 1981, CDB's staff totalled 219 with 100 professionals and 119 non-professionals, compared with the 1980 total of 190 consisting of 90 professionals and 100 non-professionals. Twenty-nine of the professionals were financed (wholly or partially) under technical assistance programmes with international agencies and a number of Governments; West Germany and New Zealand.

It was also pointed out that construction of new offices proposed on land adjacent to present headquarters at Wilkey was delayed due to unforeseen circumstances.

CSO: 3025/292

CDB DIRECTORS APPROVE \$19 MILLION IN LOANS FOR CARIBBEAN

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 13 May 82 p 3

[Text]

CASTRIES, Saint Lucia, Wednesday (CANA) — The 73rd meeting of the Board of Directors of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), which ended here Monday, conditionally approved loans totalling just over US\$19 million to finance projects in five Caribbean islands.

The biggest allocations go to Jamaica (US\$7 million) and Barbados (US\$5 million).

The meeting held under the chairmanship of CDB president William Demas, approved projects for the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, and St. Vincent. It agreed to provide a loan of US\$3 000 000 to the Bahamas Development Bank for agricultural and industrial credit.

Barbados gets a loan of US\$5 000 000 from the bank's special fund resources to assist in financing the local cost of projects under the Caribbean Development Facility Programme.

Belize will receive three loans US\$583 500 to help finance improvements to an abattoir and meat-packing plant, US\$547 500 to assist with improvements to Belize beef corporations ranch operations and US\$535 500 for Angelus Press Limited (ALP) to expand its printing works.

US\$7 million will be lent to Jamaica to help finance the local cost of projects financed in part by donors acceptable to the CDB.

St. Vincent is to get two loans US\$2 070 000 to finance improvements and an extension to the wharf, and US\$330 000 to the St. Vincent Banana Growers Association for the purchase of an aerial spraying aircraft and associated spares to assist in the control of leaf spot disease.

These approvals bring the bank's total financing approved to date to US\$384 338 000.

CSO: 3025/291

BARBADOS' ADAMS TALKS WITH CHAMBERS IN PORT-OF-SPAIN

BWIA Issue

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 May 82 p 1

[Article by Norris Solomon]

[Text] Barbados is making efforts to have Trinidad and Tobago Airways Corporation (BWIA) designated as its official carrier on North American routes.

The Barbados Government has already made application to the United States Government to the effect.

This assurance was given by Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams to Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr George Chambers, during talks in Port of Spain yesterday.

The two heads of Government also agreed to appoint a working party to look into the future of Barbados--owned Carib Airways and BWIA in relation to passenger traffic between Barbados, the United States, North America, generally, and Europe and passenger traffic involving BWIA's relationship with Barbados.

Mr Adams outlined some of the decisions taken at the meeting he held with Mr Chambers during a Press conference at the Hilton Hotel in Port of Spain yesterday.

Talks between the two Caribbean leaders began shortly after 10:30 a.m. yesterday at Whitehall and continued into the afternoon during a working hours at the Hilton Hotel.

Complex Matter

Mr Adams arrived in Trinidad at 9.10 a.m. yesterday aboard a light airplane of the Barbados Defence Force and left shortly after 6.00 p.m. yesterday afternoon to return home.

Yesterday's meeting was held at the request of Mr Adams and it reviewed matters arising out of the memorandum of understanding between Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago signed in 1979.

Replying to a question whether designation of BWIA as the Barbados carrier to North America was the first step towards Barbados agreeing to BWIA being the regional carrier, Mr Adams pointed out that it was a complex matter, since even a commitment was difficult to put into action.

However, he said that he had never been against BWIA being the regional carrier.

He said that speaking as a politician he had never retreated from his stand that a regional air carrier was desirable and BWIA was the best equipped to be the carrier.

He outlined the details of the manner in which Carib Airways became the Barbados national carrier.

Barbados, he said, was also supporting BWIA in its bid for a third route to Britain.

Mr Adams said: "I was able to give the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago an assurance that Barbados will designate BWIA as its regional carrier to North American routes.

Caricom Talks

"We are already making representations to the United States to recognise BWIA as our carrier in addition to Trinidad and Tobago."

He pointed out that he had never been against BWIA being the regional carrier and reminded newsmen that ten or more years ago BWIA was an issue in Barbados politics.

On the question of a Caricom Heads of Government conference, Mr Adams said that the Government of Barbados had not received any specific indication in writing of the immediacy of such a conference.

"There has been a lot of talk and a lot of expectation that the conference was imminent.

"There seems to be widespread assumption that the venue of this conference has been selected. Neither the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago nor myself is aware of an agenda or specific date or place for the conference," he said.

"Its immediacy may not be so great as the Press is assuming," he added.

Mr Adams explained that discussions touched on many of the matters in the understanding and certain financial matters were reviewed in addition to the talks on aviation, heads of Government discussions also touched on other political and economic matters.

Adams Press Conference

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 May 82 p 1

[Text]

TRINIDAD and Tobago and Barbados are seeking to examine new initiatives relating to petroleum development.

This was revealed by Mr Tom Adams, Prime Minister of Barbados, during a Press conference at the Hilton Hotel yesterday at the end of his one-day discussions with Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr George Chambers.

Mr Adams, in outlining some of the decisions taken, said the two governments were pursuing the possibility of joint ventures between Trinidad and Tobago Oil Company (Trintoc) and the National Petroleum Corporation of Barbados.

It was decided to examine new initiatives in respect of petroleum and he pointed out that while Barbados was a minor producer there might be other areas of co-operation between the National Petroleum Corporation and Trintoc.

He felt certain, he said, that there would be developments.

Mr Adams said that Barbados had a loan application before the Trinidad and Tobago Government relating to asphalt. The application is for road maintenance using Trinidad materials and he remarked that while he had heard reports of bad roads in Trinidad he had not travelled on a bad road during his visit to Trinidad yesterday.

Commenting on the Caribbean Basin Initiative, Mr. Adams said it was not on the agenda for his discussions with Prime Minister Chambers but it was raised in passing.

ONLY A START

He explained that the CBI had some important aspects from the point of view of bilateral arrange-

ments with the United States for potential investment.

He never had hopes, he said, of a flow of a great deal of cash from the CBI.

It should be noted, he said, that the Americans had clearly said that the CBI was the start of an initiative.

He said both he and Mr Chambers agreed that there could be no compromise on investment.

"We have no intention of compromising what we have already agreed in respect of incentives by overseas investors."

On the Falklands crisis, he said that Barbados wanted a solution in accordance with the United Nations resolution.

Relating to a report in yesterday's "Guardian" that Caricargo, Mr Adams said that he could not altogether understand the report.

He said both he and Mr Chambers agreed that there could be no compromise on investment.

"We have no intention of compromising what we have already agreed in respect of incentives by overseas investors."

On the Falklands crisis, he said that Barbados wanted a solution in accordance with the United Nations resolution.

Relating to a report in yesterday's "Guardian" that Caricargo, was a bad deal nationally and that BWIA was losing as a result of Caricargo, Mr Adams said that he could not altogether understand the report.

He said that before Caricargo (a joint venture between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados), BWIA used to be a cargo carrier and "I believe perhaps it was not doing particularly well."

He said it was somewhat of a surprise to hear that BWIA had said that Caricargo was taking away business from BWIA.

Invitation to Chambers

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 May 82 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister George Chambers has accepted an invitation to pay an official visit to Barbados.

Invitation was issued yesterday by Mr Tom Adams, Prime Minister of Barbados during discussions with Mr Chambers in Port of Spain.

Mr Adams stated at a Press conference later that Mr Chambers had accepted the invitation and he expected the visit to be early, at a convenient time.

Prime Minister Adams also invited Mr Chambers to perform the official opening ceremony at the opening of the joint venture cement plant between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados in Barbados.

The plant is now under construction and Mr Adams explained that the invitation to open the cement plant when it is completed was separate from the official visit and he expected that the official visit would be before the opening of the plant.

Since Mr Chambers took office as Prime Minister he has not travelled out of Trinidad and Tobago.

Background to Talks

Bridgetown SUNDAY SUN in English 9 May 82 p 1

[Excerpts] The Barbados Government has agreed to designate Trinidad and Tobago's national airline BWIA International as its carrier to North America, and applications are now being made to the United States Government to recognise the airline as Barbados' carrier as well as Trinidad and Tobago's for the purpose of operating those routes.

Prime Minister Tom Adams said at a press conference in Port-of-Spain Friday that he had given these assurances to his Trinidad and Tobago counterpart, George Chambers, during talks on a memorandum of understanding between the two countries signed in April 1979.

The "memorandum of understanding" was signed in 1979 by Adams and the late Trinidad and Tobago leader, Dr Eric Williams, providing for cooperation between the two countries over a wide span of areas.

Two of its visible fruits to date are the regional air freight carrier--Caricargo and the Arawak Cement plant, now under construction in northern Barbados, both of which are Barbados-Trinidad and Tobago joint ventures.

The memorandum also covers military assistance in the form of training for members of the defence forces of both countries, a double taxation agreement, an agreement to extend equal treatment under their respective insurance,

exchange control and income tax legislation to all insurance companies incorporated in and controlled by residents of either country or by a combination of both states.

Agriculture, fishing and trade, and cooperation in the energy sector are the other areas covered under the bilateral agreement. (CANA)

Trinidad Editorial Comment

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY GUARDIAN in English 9 May 82 p 8

[Editorial: "Mr Adams and BWIA"]

[Text]

BARBADOS, according to Prime Minister Tom Adams is seeking make to Trinidad and Tobago International Airways (BWIA) its official carrier on North American routes. But Mr. Adams's words were a bit qualified. The status of BWIA as the official regional carrier for the Commonwealth Caribbean is still very much up in the air.

In his Press conference in Port of Spain on Friday the Barbados PM stated that agreeing to BWIA being the regional carrier was a complex matter since even a commitment was difficult to put into action.

He then proceeded to give what he termed his personal views: he had never been against BWIA's being the regional carrier; he had never retreated from his stand that a regional air carrier was desirable and that BWIA was the best equipped to be the carrier. He also added that Barbados was supporting BWIA in its effort to obtain a third route to Britain.

It was all a magnificent display of personal politics but whether it is a bankable proposition is another thing.

We hope, however, that Mr. Adams will be instrumental in guiding other Commonwealth Caribbean Governments to the position where he now appears to stand. The cumulative effect of such an effort, we think, can serve to convince others that BWIA is indispensable regionally and is supported widely and thus can qualify for treatment as the official regional carrier. If this is done BWIA would be able to turn the advantages of that status into sadly-needed cash flow and reduction of losses.

Without the assurance of status as regional carrier and without the successful exploitation of that status BWIA will tend to remain in a very vulnerable financial predicament.

After all, Mr. Adams is perfectly correct in saying that BWIA is the most suitable candidate.

for regional carrier status. It ought not to be hard then for all the others to agree on that and from there to proceed logically to the effecting of a joint statement defining BWIA as the regional air carrier and committing all Governments in their negotiations for air routes to push the cause of BWIA.

Anything else appears futile to us.

Surely, if all the Commonwealth Caribbean countries make the same point in their representations the cause of BWIA would be irresistible.

What — except chauvinism and lack of knowledge about aviation economics — can be holding things up?

CSO: 3025/291

BARBADOS THREATENS REPRISALS ON JAMAICA OVER IMPORTS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 12 May 82 p 1

[Text]

BARBADOS MANUFACTURERS are threatening to cancel their orders from Jamaica because "little or no import licences" have been granted to them by Jamaica for 1982. They have asked the Jamaica Exporters' Association and the Jamaica Manufacturers' Association to intervene to avert this action.

In a telegram to the J.E.A., the manufacturers said they were "extremely disturbed" by the fact that "little or no import licences" had been granted to them by Jamaica for 1982, despite efforts through their Minister of Trade who had had no replies to his diplomatic despatches.

Mr. H. Viera, of the Barbados Manufacturers' Association, said that "as far back as the first week in April on my insistence our Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Trade has made numerous telephone calls to your High Commissioner with no response".

The next action being proposed, Mr. Viera said, was to ask Barbadian importers to cancel orders from Jamaica. He asked that the J.E.A. "intervene or assist so as to avert

unpleasant action which could only destroy co-operation being developed between our association".

Yesterday, the Minister of State, the Hon. Anthony Johnson, and the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Mr. Warren Woodham, could not be reached for comment as they were in meetings. The Minister, the Hon. Douglas Vaz is off the island.

THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME that there have been problems between Jamaica and Barbados with respect to the granting of import licences to that country for the entry of its manufactured products into this country.

A similar situation developed previously, when a delegation from the Barbados Manufacturers Association had to come to Jamaica to make representations regarding the non-issuance of import licences to their members to send goods to Jamaica.

On that occasion, the problem was straightened out and normal trade relations between the two countries, as members of CARICOM, were resumed. More recently, a trade mission from Barbados came to Jamaica and reported doing good business in local sales.

CSO: 3025/290

BARBADOS PRIME MINISTER ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO BERMUDA

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 14 May 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Barbados Prime Minister Mr Tom Adams arrived in Bermuda yesterday for his first official visit which will include an exchange of ideas with Government officials and Governor Sir Richard Posnett.

Mr Adams believes he can learn about the business of attracting tourists and environmental and planning laws while Bermuda can benefit from the Caribbean island's experiences in relation to Independence.

The 50-year-old Labour Premier faces a busy three-day stay following an official visit to Canada. Immediately after his arrival he was taken to the Tourism Department where he met officials and also the Minister of Planning, the Hon. Haskins Davis.

After one-hour long discussions, Mr Adams, Barbados Prime Minister since 1976, was escorted to the Cabinet Office by Premier the Hon. John Swan where he told of his plans.

"The Bermuda Government may want to know something of our experiences as an independent country in the Caribbean," he said.

"We have always been interested in Bermuda's planning and environmental laws."

Although Bermuda has not enjoyed a tourism boom in the past few months, Mr Adams is confident he can pick up a few tips. "We are trying to learn how to attract visitors," he said. "May, I believe, is one of your best months. It is one of our worst."

Barbados did not have a particularly good tourism year in 1981, said Mr Adams. But he added: "I think it will pick up again."

He pledged support for Britain's fight to regain the Falkland Islands pointing out that Barbados followed the United Nations line and was the first Commonwealth country to publicly back U.K. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the issue. Mr Adams said it was important to make a stand against such aggression.

'HERALD' SCORES 'INDIRECT' U.S. MILITARY AID TO UK

PY231711 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 23 May 82 p 8

[Editorial: "Indirect Support?"]

[Text] According to reports from the Pentagon, the United States has decided to lend Britain the K-135 tanker refuelling aircraft that it will need to carry out battle and reconnaissance missions in its military incursions into the South Atlantic. With this move, the government of the United States has broken totally with its originally neutral stance on the Malvinas crisis and has given what amounts to direct military support to British aggression against Argentina. The way in which the tanker planes have been passed to the British is obviously designed to disguise U.S. military support of British attacks on Argentine troops occupying the Malvinas, since the K-135S on loan from the Pentagon will be stationed at the British Air Force base at Midenhall near London. But the reports from the Pentagon make it clear that these aircraft are being provided in order to free similar British tanker planes for use in the Malvinas operations.

Passing the K-135 tankers to the British in the midst of the Thatcher government's campaign to start a fullscale war in the South Atlantic cannot be considered "indirect" military assistance, nor can it be considered "indirect" military assistance, nor can it be considered as a simple matter of maintaining the NATO balance in the British Isles, at least not when the Pentagon and the State Department know full well that with the distances to be covered in the far-flung South Atlantic, Britain will have to depend heavily on refuelling aircraft in order to carry out fullscale raids on the islands and, more importantly, to reach the Argentine mainland, should London decide to escalate the war to that extent. No matter how "indirect" Washington may want people to believe its military support for London is, Argentine victims of the extensive raids these tankers will make possible will be just as directly dead as if the U.S. had flown the refuelling missions itself.

It is absolutely inadmissible that the most powerful leader of the Americas should allow itself to become directly involved in the staging of fullscale military action against another pro-Western American nation. It is shocking that Washington is becoming a party to the madness of a war between two Western nations in which the only winner will be Soviet influence in the Western hemisphere. It is totally counterproductive and terrifying dangerous for Washington to allow itself to be goaded by Britain into becoming a party to this growing

internal threat to Western peace and security. The administration of President Ronald Reagan continues to thrash ahead in the area of foreign policy like a confused bull hopelessly trapped in a China shop. If Washington does not reassess its blindly destructive policies in this area immediately, not one diplomatic cup or plate will remain unbroken on its shelf. The U.S. holds the only pressure sufficient to keep Britain from driving a military wedge between Latin America and the rest of the West, the only force which can keep the Malvinas from turning into a South Atlantic Vietnam, the only world position whose strict impartiality might possibly be strong enough to bring pressure to bear for a quick end to hostilities and a return to negotiations. By not using the resources which it has at its disposal, by siding with one nation over another in a dispute which is tearing a large hole in the Western fabric, Washington is failing in its role as leader of the Western world and rapidly isolating itself from its southern neighbours.

CSO: 3020/126

DETAILS ON FREEZE OF UK ASSETS

PY211935 Buenos Aires HERALD in 20 May 82 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)--The national government last night banned the sale or transfer of British assets in the country "belonging to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and northern Ireland, to British subjects who are not permanent residents in Argentina, to other nationals residing in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and northern Ireland and to any firm or concern directly or indirectly controlled by them."

The ban will not apply to property belonging to British citizens who are permanent residents in Argentina on condition that they do not take part in activities that can jeopardize the national economy or the country's productive capacity," it was officially announced yesterday.

Law 22591, passed by the executive branch and made public at Government House last night, provides for the creation of a "national trustee commission" for its enforcement. The commission will be presided by an official at the presidency's general secretariat and will be made up of representatives from the ministries of the interior, foreign relations, justice, defence, economy and public works.

The "armed and economic aggression ordered and carried out by the British Government," makes it compulsory to take this measure, the official announcement said.

Economy Minister Roberto Alemann said last night that official auditors would be placed at British-owned firms to control their operations.

Speaking at the Economy Ministry, Alemann refused to comment on an internal document, which was leaked to the press last week. The document pointed to the need to agree on some consistent economic policy and on those who would carry it out.

Alemann, however, said he "regretted" the incident, but denied it could result in resignations within the Economy Ministry.

The new law, which implies the prohibition to sell or transfer the assets of British-owned companies, but safeguards their normal functioning, is aimed at avoiding capital flights, Alemann said.

Those who have property included in this law or represent people or organizations under the conditions of this law, or direct, govern or belong to the companies' board of trustees, must give notice to the Interior Ministry or the respective Provincial Ministry within the next 5 days.

The law provides for severe penalties for transgressors ranging from 2 to 10 years in prison, with the addition of some complementary penalties like loss of citizenship and expulsion from the country.

Alemann also said that 7 trillion (million million) pesos' rediscount had been put back into the banking. He also denied rumors that the Bank of London would be about to call for its "self-liquidation."

In reference to foreign trade, Alemann said that there will soon be another round of talks with the Soviet Union to place more Argentine grain on the Soviet market.

Yesterday Alemann also briefed President Leopoldo Galtieri on the results of his mission to Helsinki, where the minister criticized the European common market for extending its economic sanctions on Argentina, an official statement said. Alemann said creditors are confident Argentina can repay its \$35 billion foreign debt despite the strain that the Malvinas Island conflict has put on the nation's economy.

CSO: 3020/126

ALFONSIN BACKS ILLIA AS NEW RADICAL HEAD

PY210539 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 21 May 82 p 9

[Text] Radical leader Raul Alfonsin yesterday defended a controversial proposal to convene his party's national plenary committee and said he believes it is "absolutely necessary" that former President Arturo Illia become president of the Radical Party.

"I am surprised that some have thought this was an inopportune moment to call for a meeting. It is strange that anyone should think that open debate will do the country anything but good in these difficult moments," Alfonsin said at press conference. A lively factional controversy was sparked last week by reports, that the true purpose of the meeting, which was widely supported by provincial delegates, is to replace current party leader Carlos Contin by Illia.

Alfonsin and those who support him favour placing Illia at the head of the party as a prelude to proposing him as president of a national civilian transition government, which would take over the country after the Malvinas crisis is resolved.

This plan is opposed by Contin and other national party leaders, who claim involving Illia in factional politics will compromise the radical's chances of leading a transition government.

Antonio Troccoli, a leader of the "national current" faction which is supporting Contin's claim to the presidency, said yesterday that Illia did not discuss the issue when he met with Contin on Wednesday night.

Troccoli also said Illia believes that party national committee must meet to determine the party's overall strategy.

Asked by the HERALD about claims that the Contin leadership has become too closely linked with the military government, Troccoli said such reports were "absolutely inexact." He said "nothing could be farther from the truth" than suggestions that the present leadership "would do anything to compromise the independence of the Radical Party."

Alfonsin denied that placing Illia at the head of the party would create a split in radical ranks.

"It is absurd to think that Illia could split the party. He is the most respected politician in the country and is the one figure who could galvanize us," he said.

Alfonsin explained that he believes a civilian-led government of transition will be necessary after the Malvinas crisis is resolved.

"I see two tendencies emerging," he said. "One which would be those who do not change anything at all, and the other would be a nationalist group which might want to make changes but would be authoritarian."

Alfonsin said only civilian transition led by a universally respected figure like Illia could prevent a clash between these two tendencies.

"I think the Argentine people have earned the right to express themselves democratically," the leader said.

"Just as the Malvinas crisis has changed our appreciation of the armed forces acting in their constitutional role, they must have a new appraisal of the civilian leaders who are fully supporting their struggle."

CSO: 3020/126

EX-PRESIDENT ILLIA WANTS TRANSITION GOVERNMENT

PY212013 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 21 May 82 p 9

[Text] (NA)--Former President Arturo Illia, speaking out for the first time since his name was mentioned last week as a possible ehad of a "government of transition," said yesterday that he sees instead "a great civilian force" heading Argentina's next civilian government, in a clear reference to a political party.

Illia also commented on the topic of the Malvinas War, saying that "after the first armed conflict, the politicians should have been called on to achieve peace."

The 82-year old radical leader also expressed his support of a controversial proposal for a meeting of his party's national plenary committee.

"It is not possible to maintain the status quo as some people seem to want," Illia said, adding that "discussions have to be held."

Asked whether the multiparty organization could be the civilian force he believed would head the next civilian government, Illia replied, "it will help, but it must be a great civilian force."

"The church, the armed forces, all must help, but there must be some orientation. The great civilian organizations have always taken care of postwar recovery--the Christian Democratic Party in Italy,...De Gaulle in France," Illia told the Noticias Argentinas News Agency.

The ex-president described the factional infighting that has broken out within the radical party over plans to call a meeting of the national committee as "absurd."

Asked whether he thought this might not be the proper time for discussions, Illia replied, "on the contrary, now is the moment."

"It is necessary to prepare the party to act now and later to act as a responsible civilian force able to make a significant contribution to the nation."

"I think it is more important to resolve the fundamental problems, such as the instability we have lived in for the last 50 years, than the immediate problems such as the economic shortcomings."

"This problem (the Malvinas) caught us in an anarchic situation," he continued, "and I believe we need to resolve who will direct the reconstruction in the immediate future."

"My proposal is to use the constitution as a factor as continental integration to achieve peace," Illia said.

Illia said he had discussed these proposals with current radical President Carlos Contin in their meeting on Wednesday night.

"All these things must be discussed calmly within the plenary of the party," he said.

Illia declined to make a judgment about the last 6 years of military rule.

"I don't want to get into that," he said, "because right now the Argentine people are united in defence of their inalienable right."

He also refused to speculate about the possibility of a civilian transition government taking over after the Malvinas conflict is resolved.

"We can't talk about a post-war when we are still at war," Illia pointed out.

"Besides, I prefer to talk about a government of reaffirmation," he added.

CSO: 3020/126

COMMUNIST LEADER MEETS INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIAL

PY210956 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0324 GMT 19 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 May (NA)--Communist leader Rubens Iscaro today informed the government on the tour he made abroad in order to clarify the Argentine position in the conflict with Great Britain, and at the same time he pleaded for the unity of the labor movement to "defeat British colonialism and yankee imperialism."

Iscaro, accompanied by leaders Fernando Nadra and Jesus Mira, met this afternoon with Interior Under Secretary Col Jose Fernandez at Government House.

At a previous press conference held at the headquarters of the Communist Party, he criticized Argentine labor leaders who "went to beg for solidarity" from the International Confederation of Free Trade Union "to change its favorable position regarding Great Britain."

He excused himself from giving his opinion on the divisions in the Argentine labor movement indicating that "at this moment when the state is in danger, when thousands of soldiers are offering their lives for the fatherland, we must seek that which joins us in order to defeat British colonialism and yankee imperialism."

Iscaro met in Prague, Czechoslovak, with the leadership of the World Federation of Trade Unions [WFTU], which groups 210 million workers of 98 socialist countries and countries of the third world.

His tour to clarify the Argentine position in the Malvinas conflict also included the GDR, Cuba and Peru.

He stated that in the countries visited, "I found wide solidarity with the Argentine position" even though, he explained, "I had to get around various doubts and hesitations (on the part of the persons he was speaking to) because ours is a de facto government."

He concluded explaining that the WFTU is studying the possibility of decreeing a 1-hour stoppage in solidarity with Argentina and a boycott of transportation and correspondence from Great Britain.

CSO: 3010/1598

UK DETENTION OF OFFICER ILLEGAL

PY230330 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2315 GMT 20 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 May (TELAM)--Foreign reports state that the British Government has decided to retain the Argentine military man, Lt Cdr Alfredo Astiz, with the status of a prisoner of war. Astiz was detained with 189 other persons--civilians and military men--during the combat actions on the South Georgias Islands.

The British attitude is apparently based on formal requests from the French and Swedish Governments, which wish to question Captain Astiz on supposed actions carried out in Argentina at the time of the fight against subversion in this country.

This event deserves to be reviewed from the legal point of view: both from the point of view of internal law which includes the treaty on extradition signed between Argentina and Great Britain, and from the point of view of a review of the norms on international criminal law.

First of all, the situation now existing regarding Argentine-British relations must be defined. Thus, one gets to the conclusion that the peace has not been broken, since there is no expressed statement for recognition of a state of war at the international level: there is no formal declaration of war.

It is appropriate to notice at this point that the warlike actions by Great Britain, according to international law constitute illegal measures; they comprise typical retaliations aimed at obtaining a goal of a political character. (Charles Rousseau, Public International Law)

Regarding the question related to handing over citizens claimed by foreign countries, it must be framed within the existing law on the subject; in this specific case, the treaty of mutual handing-over of criminals, signed between Argentina and Great Britain and approved in Argentina by law 3043 of 22 May 1889 and the general law on extradition (1612 of 25 August 1986) [year as received].

The latter establishes that the Argentine Government can hand over to foreign governments, under the condition of reciprocity, any persecuted individual accused or sentenced by the courts of the petitioner, provided the crime is a common crime.

The law adds that handing over persons to a foreign government does not apply when the wanted persons are Argentine citizens or were naturalized before the action which motivated the request for extradition and when the crimes were committed in the republic's territory.

Therefore, if Great Britain had requested the extradition of Captain Astiz, the Argentine Government would have simply refused because the legal requirements were not met.

Furthermore, if Great Britain claims the existence of a prisoner of war, without a formal acknowledgement of the state of war, the existing conventions on the subject--the Hague ruling and the Geneva conventions of 1920 and 1949--it would also constitute illegal detention [impedimento]. It is hard to imagine a prisoner of war whom they intend to charge with the commission of crimes outside the conflict and, even less justifiable that he would be handed over to a third country for his eventual judgment.

In summary, the detention of Captain Astiz is clearly in violation of all the legal norms in force, both national and international. Moreover, it is against human rights, an issue much talked about and warmly defended by both of the countries involved.

Furthermore, some of those countries have accorded the status of political refugees to confessed criminal terrorists who had spread death in our country; and they refused to extradite them in opposition to the laws in force.

It must be recalled that the norms prepared by the leading countries in the Western world must be respected by all the nations included therein.

CSO: 3010/1598

BRIEFS

WAR RISK INSURANCE LEGISLATION--Buenos Aires, 21 May (TELAM)--The national government authorized the insurance brokers registered with the national registry of the superintendency of insurance to maintain and cover the so-called war risks beginning on 30 April 1982 for the account of the national state. The coverage includes maritime and air transportation of goods, vessels and aircraft, oil-drilling rigs and related activities, according to the clauses and conditions in force, and it includes confiscation data. The measure was adopted through Law No 22,593, the text of which was released today. Such insurance coverage will be governed by the effective laws on insurance and reinsurance, and the agency in charge of the application is the national superintendency of insurance. This agency is also authorized to expand, restrain or change the clauses and conditions of the foreseen coverage as well as to set up the corresponding policy rates, establishing the form and time of their transfer to the national state. The message which accompanied the plan pointed out that the measure is partly based on the impossibility to normally cover these risks due to the present situation deriving from the recovery of the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands. The unavoidable need to provide such coverage was also pointed out, in order to avoid the charge of nonfulfillment of duties emerging from charter parties, financial hiring and the like, with the subsequent negative repercussions on the Argentine foreign credit. [Text] [PY212146 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1611 GMT 21 May 82]

FOREIGN BANKS SUSPEND LOANS--Buenos Aires, 22 May (NA)--Entrepreneurial sources have revealed that foreign banks have limited the granting of loans to Argentine private enterprises due to the conflict over the Malvinas. The sources revealed that Citibank unexpectedly canceled a \$45 million credit granted previously to the petroleum company Bidas, using that argument. Bidas is a member of the group of total French origin that recently discovered petroleum in the South Atlantic, near Islas de Los Estados. The attitude of the U.S. financial group is in keeping with the strategy established by the foreign banks of maintaining the financial credits to Argentina but of not granting new loans for as long as the conflict with Great Britain lasts. Thus, the U.S. banks have made some changes but only for short-term credits of 60 to 90 days, with the consequent rise in prices of money. The interests which the banks charge for this type of operations is usually double what they charge in normal periods, because if the "spread" [given in English] charged before was .5 percent, it is now 1 percent. [Text] [PY221510 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 May 82]

COALITION GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL DENIED--Mar Del Plata, 17 May (NA)--Deolindo Bittel, first vice president of the Justicialist Party, and Carlos Contin, head of the Radical Party, have denied that their respective parties are promoting a coalition government. Bittel, in statements to the paper EL ATLANTICO of this city said that "although the names circulating at this time are respectable, I do not see the need to organize a civilian-military government." He added: "On the other hand, if it is a matter of a coalition government, then it is the present government which must speak. In order to improve the country's image abroad, it should infailingly announce elections for 1984." In a clear allusion to the name of Dr Arturo Illia as a transition president, Bittel said that "it deserves our respect: but that "the new president should be elected by the people in free elections." The first vice president of the Justicialist Party said: "Furthermore, the armed forces should take advantage that at this time they have the support of all the popular parties which are prepared to strengthen the unity of Latin America and should act accordingly." Contin also denied the report which said that the majority political forces in the country intend to promote a coalition government. The radical leader told EL ATLANTICO that "you cannot talk about the possibility of a transition government at this time since before anything we must know in what condition we will be after the Bellicose conflict and on what basis the nation will recover." [Text] [PY221924 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1445 GMT 17 May 82]

LEADERSHIP CRITICIZES LABOR MINISTER--Buenos Aires, 21 May (NA)--The executive board of the General Labor Confederation [CGT] led by Saul Ubaldini today harshly criticized the labor minister, Brig Gen Julio Cesar Porcile, for "having jeopardized the unity of action of all Argentines." In a document released tonight, the CGT leadership states that its criticism primarily concerns the appointment of the delegation which will represent our country at the assembly of the International Labor Organization (ILO). The CGT also censures the government's position regarding the new CGT which was recently created on the basis of the CNT-20 intersectorial group. In this regard, the document charges Porcile with backing "a CGT which is at the service of illegitimate personal interests." "While we are truly fighting for the fatherland," the CGT says, "he (Porcile) does not hesitate in jeopardizing the unity of action of all Argentines, both civilian and military, who are giving their lives for the sake of reaffirming our sovereignty." The document reiterates the unconditional support of the Ubaldini-led CGT for the recovery and defense of the Malvinas Islands. It was also learned that the recently created CGT-Azopardo today held its first plenary meeting. [Excerpt] [PY221139 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0120 GMT 22 May 82]

GRAIN TO IRAN--Buenos Aires, 21 May (NA)--Authorized sources of the agriculture and livestock secretariat have reported that Argentina will sell 1 million tons of grain to Iran by virtue of an agreement that was signed today. Shipments of 350,000 tons of corn and 140,000 tons of sorghum will reportedly be dispatched in July, while 500,000 tons of wheat will reportedly be shipped between December 1982 and February 1983. [Text] [PY220825 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2125 GMT 21 May 82]

PENTAGON SUPPORT CLAIMED--The U.S. Treasury Department and the Pentagon back Argentina in the Malvinas crisis, while Secretary of State Alexander Haig and the State Department lean towards Great Britain, Economy Minister Roberto Alemann claimed in a television interview in Buenos Aires last night. The economy minister recently returned from a tour of Europe and the U.S. during which he met with important bankers, businessmen and government officials. Alemann was interviewed in the Tiempo Nuevo ATC-channel 7 program hosted by Mariano Grondona last night. Alemann said that Haig, the State Department, Congress and some of President Ronald Reagan's aides have backed Great Britain in the Malvinas conflict. But, he claimed, the Pentagon and the U.S. Treasury have shown a greater understanding of the Argentine position. He said that the Pentagon considered the Malvinas crisis "the main East-West conflict" and that it was linked to the situation in Central America. [as published--Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 1220 GMT on 21 May says that Alemann said on television "that the Pentagon favors us since the Argentina stance on Central America carries great weight with that institution, for that is the principal East-West conflict."] [Text] [PY211813 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 21 May 82 p 1]

CSO: 3020/126

FNM PRESS CONFERENCE: PLP INTIMIDATES GOVERNMENT WORKERS

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 6 May 82 pp 1, 12

[Article by Gladstone Thurston]

[Text]

A SENIOR Cabinet Minister has reportedly threatened to "deal with" police officers who support the official opposition Free National Movement (FNM), a press conference was told today.

And, senior civil servants have allegedly been used by the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) to intimidate junior public officers whose political leanings are towards the FNM.

Also at the FNM press conference, the FNM criticised the PLP administration for abusing ZNS radio and television, and not allowing the Opposition equal time to present their platform to the people.

"We know of one Cabinet Minister who has threatened to go after police supporters of the FNM who have a perfect right to be whatever they want to be, politically," FNM chief spokesman Arthur Foulkes said. The Cabinet Minister was named by the FNM.

The FNM, he said, found it strange that the PLP can have involved in its campaign "high ranking civil servants like (Transport Ministry permanent secretary) Velma Thompson openly engaged" in campaigning.

"We feel that this is totally wrong and against the interest of our parliamentary and civil service system," Foulkes said.

This Cabinet Minister, the

FNM said, realising that a large number of police officers are on the Opposition's side, "he threatened to 'deal with them.' We urge our supporters to stand firm and do not be intimidated. We expect that the more we gain, the more desperate the PLP will become."

St Michael's candidate and chairman of the activities committee George Wilson criticised the Government for monopolising ZNS radio and television "not allowing the FNM a fair opportunity to get their message across. The Government is being very high-handed and one-sided and totally unfair with ZNS."

Mr Foulkes also commented on claims by independent North Long Island, Rum Cay and San Salvador candidate Winston Albury that he has the edge over FNM candidate E K Minnis and PLP candidate Philip Smith.

"We have heard and read that our candidate (Minnis) will run third, but that is contrary to our information," Foulkes said. "Our information is that our candidate is way ahead."

Recognising that Mr Albury does have a large following, Foulkes said: "We feel that on election day they will vote their conscience, which will be for Mr Minnis."

While expressing confidence that the FNM will win the

election slated for June 10, Foulkes declined to say by what margin.

"We will win across the board," Foulkes said. "We will win in the out islands and we will win in New Providence. We are very confident of victory by a comfortable majority."

The FNM, he said, will win because the people are fed up with the PLP's management of the economy which has produced chronic and widespread unemployment.

"The main issue is bread and butter, unemployment and as a result of unemployment there has been an unprecedented crime wave in this country so much so that we are rated in the top ten in the world in violent crime. That was over a year ago and it's probably higher now," Foulkes said.

Also, he said, there was general discontent which Bahamians feel for all kinds of reasons — the economic situation, and arrogance, intimidation, double-talk, lies and false promises of the PLP administration.

One of the main priorities of the FNM should it win the Government, Foulkes said, will be to tackle unemployment and crime. Also as a priority matter, the FNM intends to "pay a decent wage to the police who work under, in some cases, inhumane conditions. Then we have to equip the police properly to

deal with crime."

Mr Foulkes also told of the FNM's plans to bring about economic expansion which will increase the availability of jobs.

The FNM's philosophy, Foulkes said, is to restore investor confidence which, he said "is the big thing the PLP lacks and that is the greatest factor in the fall-off of economic growth since 1970. It's very difficult to tell people to invest when you don't know what the Government is coming up with. A lot of people don't trust them (PLP) anymore."

Foulkes said the FNM has had "expressions of interest" from people who have known the Bahamas for many years and who are in a position to invest, and would be willing to invest if they could be assured that their investment is safe "and the rules would not be changed on them from day to day."

"It seems to me that there should be no doubt in anybody's mind that confidence is the key," Foulkes said. "We can look around in the Cayman Islands and see that they have benefited from the lack of confidence in the Bahamas. Jamaica, which had suffered a worse kind of lack of confidence, is now taking off in all directions."

CSO: 3025/293

TOURISM DROPS IN FIRST QUARTER OF '82; UP SHARPLY IN SECOND

Spring Increases

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 4 May 82 p 1

[Excerpt]

All of Bermuda's major hotels are 100 percent full this week and projections indicate that the trend will continue at least until the end of June.

The bumper tourist crop — one week before hotel and tourism chiefs set off for a two-week tourism promotion blitz in the United States — comes as welcome news after earlier fears that the United States recession could have a disastrous effect on Bermuda's primary industry this year.

But there was at least some evidence that although visitors were arriving in droves, they were spending less.

Stonington Beach Hotel general manager Mr. Bill Mulder said his guests were spending less on food and wine than they had last year although his 95 percent expected May occupancy rate compared more than favourably with the 81 percent recorded for the same month last year. Last night every room was full.

First Quarter Plunge

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 13 May 82 pp 1, 6

[Text]

Tourism took a sharp nosedive during the first quarter of this year.

Grim statistics yesterday released by the Department of Tourism show numbers of visitors to the Island for the first three months of this year plunged by a sharp 25.5 percent over the same period last year.

The March figures show that the dramatic drop is accounted for in every group of tourists arriving in Bermuda. Numbers of

American tourists took the most dramatic dive — with 27 percent fewer vacationers (64,013 last year to this year's 46,751).

Visitors from Canada were down by 20.1 percent; but British visitors declined by only 2.5 percent (although the usual U.K. tally is low — last year there were 2,112 visitors compared with 2,060 this year).

The figures show that hoteliers speaking out earlier this year were right — the

United States recession is taking a hard toll on Bermuda's major industry. Hotel occupancy figures for March dipped from 62.5 percent to 48.1 percent.

But looking at the brighter side, the Tourism Department said hotel occupancy during April and May was expected to exceed projections of 67.4 and 80.5 percent respectively.

PEASANT LEADER ATTACKS GOVERNMENT

PY230404 Paris AFP in Spanish 0433 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] La Paz, 21 May (AFP)--Genaro Flores, secretary general of the Bolivian peasant workers single labor confederation [confederacion sindical unica de trabajadores campesinos de Bolivia--CSUTCB], asserted here today that the government is subject, as a simple instrument of imperialism, to the dictates of the U.S. Embassy, the International Monetary Fund, the financial consortiums and the [U.S.] Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

The Agrarian leader, who was seriously wounded by security agents of Gen Luis Garcia Meza's government in June 1981, has returned to the country after careful medical treatment in France and resumed his functions as CSUTCB leader and at the outlawed Bolivian Labor Federation (COB).

Flores pointed out during a press conference held in secret that the economic measures have not only increased production costs but have also made the countryside more dependent on the cities.

He harshly criticized the use of herbicides to eliminate coca plants instead of struggling directly against the drug traffickers. This, he said, has not only destroyed the country but has also perverted the age-old use of the plant by the peasants.

He asserted that the dictatorship of the latest years have led the country toward disaster, but said that the position of the peasants should not be interpreted as an antimilitaristic feeling, because they are the true guardians of the nation through our military service.

This country deserves to have armed forces that are committed to the liberation and development of our fatherland, armed forces detached from drug trafficking, paramilitary groups and antipopular and antipatriotic actions, the union leader asserted.

In conclusion, he explained the platform of struggle of the Bolivian peasants: general amnesty; fair prices for farming products; abolition of the transport monopoly; land return, and the renewal of the worker-peasant-student pact.

CSO: 3010/1599

GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY

PY220757 La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] After several hours of negotiations and through an agreement signed by Education Minister Juan Vera Antesana, Interior Minister Romulo Mercado, Bolivian church representatives, Red Cross representatives and Bolivian University representatives, the university problem was solved last night.

The 10-point statement states:

1. The supreme national government, in exercise of its duties, ratifies its recognition and full enforcement of university autonomy in compliance with article 185 of the constitution.
2. The university institutionalization process will be based on the rights and prerogatives established in article 185 of the constitution and the autonomous university statute.
3. In view of the aforementioned article, a decree will be issued repealing decree No 18187 issued on 13 April 1981.
4. It is agreed that until 21 September 1982 the university community is hereby authorized to appoint its temporary officials to implement the university institutionalization process.
5. Once the temporary officials have been appointed, they will decide how to structure the top-ranking Bolivian University coordination body which will also be temporary and which will have powers that cannot extend beyond 2 months as of 21 September 1982.
6. The university community is hereby committed to guarantee the normal academic and administrative university activities. Moreover, the government is hereby committed to guarantee those necessary measures for the normal operation of universities.
7. University officials ratify their commitment that they will not fire any academic or administrative personnel without due process or for unjustified reasons.

8. Upon signing this statement, the government commits itself to free those university students who are under arrest and to lift security (?measures) while the university community commits itself to cease the fast throughout the national territory.

9. Regarding the demand to enforce a general amnesty, the government will decide whether to enforce this measure whenever it deems it proper.

10. The supreme government and the university community express their deep appreciation to the Catholic church, in the person of Msgr Alejandro Mestre, and to the Bolivian Red Cross, represented by Dr (Hugo Palacios).

La Paz, 20 May 1982

Signed: Lt Col Juan Vera Antesana, education minister; Col Romulo Mercado Garnica, interior minister; Msgr Alejandro Mestre, representative of the Catholic church; Dr (Hugo Palacios), Red Cross representative; (Ramon Rada Velazco), Eng (Hugo Mancilla), Eng (Oscar Torrijo), Eng (Orlando Coscio), Dr (Gaston Vilar), (Freddy Araniba), Dr (Walter Ayala Canedo), Dr (Nora de Salvatierra), and (Hernan Quiroga), representing the Bolivian University.

Consequently the university conflict has been solved. The government ratifies its recognition of university autonomy and the university community suspends its fast throughout the country.

CSO: 3010/1599

BRAZILIAN OPPOSITION PARTY CONDEMS BRITISH AGGRESSION

PY272218 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1315 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 27 May (TELAM)--The Brazilians and the whole world are watching with indignation the British aggression in the Malvinas Islands, of which the sister Argentine nation is a victim.

This statement was made by the opposition Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB] of Rio de Janeiro in a communique released today by Federal Deputy Carlos Alberto Muniz, provincial Deputy Luis Mariano and municipal Councilwoman Olga Darc, on behalf of that political organization.

The legislators added that the presence of British fleet, haunting our continent, attacking it brutally after the order for invasion given to the British fleet by the frantic call of Mrs Thatcher to "attack," causing horror to all people of the world, "cannot be tolerated."

The PMDB representatives go further, saying the Brazilian Government which has been supporting the Argentine Government against the British, must go beyond that support, placing itself completely at the disposal of Argentina, politically and militarily."

The communique adds that "the British fleet has (?sailed) 16,000 km to violate Argentine sovereignty, writing a new ("colonialist page").

The U.S. mask has fallen. Great Britain counts on the total support of that northern country and of its treacherous government that stabbed the peoples of Latin America in the back. They claimed to be the protectors of the peoples of Latin America against foreign aggression, and on the first opportunity of giving proof of this, it betrayed them, they added.

The war for the Malvinas is a great and dramatic lesson. The security of the nation depends on the unity of its people, civilians and military, for the defense of the national sovereignty and of democracy.

The PMDB communique concludes: "Out with the British. Peace: The Malvinas are Argentine."

CSO: 3001/148

DAILY NOTES LACK OF CONSULTATION ON FALKLAND CONFLICT

PY200806 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 May 82 p 5

[By correspondent Paulo Francis from New York]

[Excerpt] The cordiality with which Reagan received Figueiredo is natural in the U.S. president, who is described by a witty critic as being "truculent and affable." Figueiredo saw Reagan's affability; and there was no reason for him to see Reagan's truculence. On the contrary, the U.S. president was interested in mending fences with the Brazilian president, but nothing to do with the silliness of Carter's human rights. It has to do with the fear that South America may yet react more strongly than it is already doing against the U.S. support for Great Britain on the Malvinas question. Should Brazil no matter how discreetly adhere to the idea of an association of Latin American countries excluding the United States, that would create serious problems for Washington.

We have already been treated with a discourtesy by Reagan and Haig on the Malvinas question that our newspapers--contrary to our military ministers--seem not to realize. Unfortunately, our military ministers speak in an oblique manner that our editors fail to understand.

I will explain: Brazil and Argentina are the most important South American countries. Brazil is not coming apart economically as Argentina is, despite the recession we are experiencing. In view of the Argentine-British crisis, it would be logical and natural for the United States to resort to the mediation of Brazil whose diplomacy, under Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, is recognized as being competent. But we were just informed, not consulted. That Mrs Thatcher should be disdainful toward us is of no importance, just as Great Britain is of no importance. But the United States knows or should know about Brazil's position in South America. However, Haig wanted to be a Kissinger on a long air bridge and ended up--saying it in good Portuguese--smashing his face.

Now Reagan asks the "good offices" of Figueiredo, but only because he fears the growing independence of our foreign policy, not because he considers us to have the authority to intervene diplomatically in a question that affects us almost directly.

Did I say "almost?" Well, I am not a military expert, but I believe that the British-imposed blockade around Ascension Island is equivalent to a blockade

around the Brazilian port of Recife. It was a unilaterally adopted, and U.S. backed, decision by the British without consulting Brazil. Were I the navy minister of Brazil, I would be nettled, and with good reason.

And note this: Margaret Thatcher is being held back by Foreign Secretary Francis Pym who, although arrogant sometimes, is a levelheaded man and wants to avoid greater complications. If Mrs Thatcher and Defense Secretary John Nott were not counterbalanced in the cabinet by Pym and Home Secretary William Whitelaw, possibly by now even the Port of Santos would be included in the "exclusion zone."

I do not want to indulge in intrigues or create trouble, but facts must come first. The Brazilian diplomacy acted well by proposing that the Malvinas be turned over to Argentina through a negotiated not armed solution. This is a sensible solution because the islands' return is a must; only the time when that will be done is up for discussion.

I have no way of knowing the details of the talks between Reagan and Figueiredo, but the truth is that there was a real resentment amid the Brazilian delegation over the manner in which we were treated by the United States and by the incompetent U.S. diplomacy. Figueiredo has more access to Galtieri than Reagan or Haig. The United States would have benefitted had it requested our assistance. But the United States "pulled off its mask." It ignored us and dealt with the question as though the problem could be resolved, through an imposed solution on Argentina, by Haig and Thatcher. The United States ignored not only Brazil but all of South America. Venezuela, which had spoused Reagan's childish idea of making Napoleon Duarte the leader of El Salvador, is today at the forefront of the countries which want to see the U.S. influence in Latin American affairs reduced to the minimum possible.

President Figueiredo's visit to Washington served as a limelight on the stage. Of course, nobody is blinder than he who does not want to see. But let no one expect miracles later. But even so, the picture has changed, and for the better.

CSO: 3001/147

BRAZILIAN DAILY ASSESSES ARGENTINE DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION

PY270326 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 May 82 p 8

[By O ESTADO'S correspondent Hugo Martinez]

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires--The intensification of the Malvinas conflict is already beginning to affect the Argentine domestic front: political circles are stirred up by rumors about the succession of President Leopoldo Galtieri and are studying postwar political options.

Military circles continue to maintain the same position: "A change of political leadership in the country is not being considered," a presidential adviser said. This is certainly the prevailing opinion in military circles which, being responsible for the Malvinas conflict, prefer to rest assured that the government will not endure any pressure as a result of changes. "One does not change his horse in the middle of the river," is a commonly used phrase in Argentina which adequately defines the risks involved in making substantial changes at a critical moment like this.

Whether the military like it or not, politicians are organizing and today make up a self-driving force. Amid a conflict which has already lasted nearly 2 months, the politicians were able to get better organized, taking advantage of the concessions given by the government and currently have a surprising force which could have serious consequences. The Radical Civic Union [UCR], the second political force in Argentina, has been deliberating. UCR President Carlos Contin has been sustaining pressure from the progressive sector led by Raul Alfonsin, who wants to call a plenary session of the UCR to name former President Arturo Illia as leader of the party. Ironically, Illia, 82, is also the candidate proposed by the UCR youth sector for a postwar national coalition government. Illia, who was deposed by the armed forces in 1966, naturally has old disagreements with the military. Peronism, for its part, continues to be divided into two factions consisting of 20 leaders, but there is consensus about the need to form a provisional national coalition government. The Communist Party [PC], which for the first time in his history was able to get to the Plaza de Mayo, remains united. Now the PC counts on the support it is getting from the Soviet Union. This support, however, is not extended to the government on the Malvinas issue. The PC's strategy is to reorganize its forces and to refrain from proposing options to the government, but it expects to profit from proposals made by others.

The armed forces, which represent the military sector [partido militar], are showing major divisions which could lead, after the war, to the replacement of Galtieri by Gen Alfredo Saint Jean (the interior minister) or by Gen Mario Menendez, the current governor of the Malvinas Islands.

BRAZILIAN DAILY REPORTS ON SUPPLY OF MATERIEL TO ARGENTINA

PY270406 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 May 82 p 7

[Text] In addition to two EMB-111 patrol planes and two tanks built by Specialized Engineers, Inc., the time has come for the Argentines to use SBAT-70 and 127 rockets, built by Avibras, in its war with Great Britain. Argentine military sources have confirmed receipt of the tanks and planes and announced that the Brazilian military support had been more significant than admitted thus far. Buenos Aires sources revealed yesterday that Argentina had purchased a large quantity of the Avibras rockets which, not only may have arrived at the conflict area but may have been already tested in combat in the islands or in air attack exercises in the southern part of the continent.

The same sources have not ruled out the possibility of the Argentines seeking other sources of supply to support their conflict with Great Britain. From Peru, for instance, Argentina could get not only more French-made Exocet missiles, which were successfully used against the Sheffield, but also Soviet ground-air SAM missiles.

Peruvian military commanders insist on the need to send arms to Argentina. Peruvian War Minister Luis Cisneros has reaffirmed that that aid "must be implemented immediately through the supply of arms, planes, helicopters and warships." Sukhoi planes are reportedly already in bases in Argentina's western provinces. There are now reports on the supply of rockets.

In addition to materiel received from Brazil and Peru, the Argentine military leaders are reportedly interested in getting parts for Mirage planes and fuel for the planes and ships operating in the South Atlantic from Venezuela.

The Israelis continue to send modern dagger fighter planes which had been ordered earlier by the Argentines. Buenos Aires official sources have denied that there was interest in turning to arms dealers who have been offering to supply the military ministries with ammunition and reconditioned military equipment or surplus and reconditioned materiel from other countries.

CSO: 3001/147

DAILY ON IMPORT OF PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO'S U.S. VISIT

PY200731 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 May 82 p 10

[Editorial: "Bridge to Peace"]

[Excerpts] The formal style of the greeting speeches could not hide the significance of President Figueiredo's trip to the United States: It can assuredly be said that the trip took place at the most propitious time, turning it into a political fact of highest importance.

The truth is that Brazil cannot take over the role of the United States in the inter-American system, but qualifications change with the passage of time and the evolution of facts. As a result of such an evolution Brazil finds itself today in a very special position in the hemisphere, and this position helps to explain the significance of President Figueiredo's trip.

Pressured by domestic policy circumstances and by very broad strategic interests, the United States adopted a stance in the Falkland crisis that caused the inter-American system, in the precarious and basically rhetorical form in which it existed, to come tumbling down. The political vacuum produced as an aftermath cannot be filled overnight.

But it is obvious that the Americas cannot dispense with good relationships, and the existence of an American system excluding the United States is unthinkable.

That is the context of the trip which a Brazilian president made to Washington "with a disposition to listen and to speak with sincere objectivity." Such a frank dialogue could have only taken place at this juncture, and so it had to be held now.

In the Brazilian president's description of the international situation, his insistence on classifying Brazil as a third world country was the only note that caused surprise. One cannot see how such a classification could help to identify Brazil, because it is so ambiguous that it can be taken either in the economic or ideological sense; and on any account the classification is still ambiguous.

Actually the speech Figueiredo made erases that artificial discrimination into blocs by saying, in one of its passages, that "in a world in which the sources

of crisis are multiplying, we believe that diplomacy has a serious role to play without slackening its efforts to build bridges among the states."

Those bridges are by far more important than the blocs. And President Figueiredo's trip consolidates a bridge that is essential to inter-American coexistence and to Brazilian diplomacy. By exercising its capacity for moderation and its perception of different realities, Brazil can continue to play a role of growing importance on the regional stage and, by extension, at the international level.

CSO: 3001/147

SAUDI PETROLEUM MINISTER'S INTERVIEW

PY280946 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 May 82 p 27

[Monica Yanakiew's exclusive interview with Saudi Petroleum Minister Ahmad Zaki Amani on 26 May--place not given]

[Text] [Question] You told [Brazilian Mines and Energy] Minister Cesar Cals on Monday that by the end of this century there will be another oil crunch similar to the ones that occurred in 1973 and in 1978/1979. On what did you base your prediction?

[Answer] I did not guarantee that there will be another crisis but the possibility exists. Since petroleum reserves are now available, consumers seemed to have changed their minds about seeking alternate sources of energy. Most projects concerning alternate sources of energy which were already under way or which were to start soon were either suspended or delayed, consumption of coal will gradually decline and then oil consumption will rise again. If we at OPEC do not gradually increase oil prices, the demand will definitely increase and we will again initiate a cycle which will result in a major increase in oil prices.

[Question] What do you think of the Brazilian projects on alternate sources of energy such as pro-alcool (alcohol production program)?

[Answer] I believe Brazil has been doing its best in this area. This country's energy program can be considered an example to be followed by other nations. Unfortunately, other nations are not doing this. Due to the oil supply available, most Western politicians have become negligent. They have not been doing what they should. Brazil is an exception.

[Question] Do you believe then that Brazil should continue to invest in its projects on alternate sources of energy?

[Answer] Yes, but naturally the drop in oil prices, the way things are going, will also cause Brazil to reduce the pace of some of its programs which had been approved earlier.

[Question] But, minister, was it the drop in oil prices alone which caused the Western countries to discontinue their programs on alternate sources of energy?

[Answer] Well, this involves a financial problem. Most projects on alternate sources of energy are expensive and cannot compete with petroleum. As petroleum prices drop, the investors do not have to put their billions of dollars into projects which will not be in their best interests. No one will invest in non-profitable projects.

[Question] In your opinion, how could a new petroleum crisis be avoided?

[Answer] For the time being, there is no solution. Yet what we do not want to see is negligent politicians. We do not want to hear senseless phrases like "we do not need OPEC. We do not need its oil because there is an adequate supply on the market." We believe OPEC is necessary and that the world will need the Arabs in the future. I believe we should not make politics when dealing with economic issues. I believe we should cooperate. Cooperation is better than confrontation.

[Question] Until when will petroleum prices remain stable?

[Answer] Prices will remain frozen until the end of 1983. This is Saudi Arabia's decision. Then prices will be increased, probably in small doses, so as not to undermine the economy, to let the oil demand reach a satisfactory level for the producers and not to jeopardize those projects on alternate sources of energy which I find very necessary.

[Question] Do you believe the world could withstand a new crisis similar to that of 1978/1979 when oil prices rose by more than 100 percent?

[Answer] There is a well-known fact which has not been mentioned by the newspapers: On the two occasions when petroleum prices increased sharply--in 1973 and 1978-1979--those increases were motivated by political reasons. Another factor contributing to that crisis was recession, which was not provoked by the petroleum price increase but by an economic cycle. Let us hope there will be no political reasons to cause an interruption in the oil supply and that, should there be political reasons, that there will be adequate reserves to prevent a disruption in the oil supply.

[Question] Do you believe there are now political reasons in the world to cause an interruption in the oil supply?

[Answer] Of course. A strong reason would be the conflict between Israel and the Arab countries. This will be a problem until we achieve peace. If we are able to overcome this problem, we will have eliminated a major obstacle for stabilizing oil supply.

[Question] How many years from now do you believe a real decline in oil reserves will take place?

[Answer] Until now we have had a truly comfortable position because the OPEC oil supply is high. We should not forget, however, that many OPEC members will stop producing and exporting petroleum in this decade and that by the 1990s, OPEC will have far less than 13 members.

[Question] What do you think will happen at the end of this century when OPEC will have fewer members?

[Answer] Other producers like Mexico and some Asian countries will emerge outside OPEC. At that point, Saudi Arabia will be the main oil producer, and we trust that the African countries will start producing too. We believe that all together we will be able to meet the world oil demand.

[Question] Which factors have been limiting economic cooperation among developing countries and which are the sectors in which this cooperation could be implemented?

[Answer] Unfortunately until now there have been no strong ties among developing countries. I believe the time has come to start a "south-south dialogue." We are always talking about the north-south dialogue among developed and developing countries. Yet the countries of the south need to sit and discuss all by themselves their own problems to increase their trade volume. This has not been done until now.

[Question] What do you think could be done between Brazil and Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] A lot, because there are many areas of mutual interest and economic cooperation. Unfortunately we are far apart geographically.

[Question] Third world countries have been suffering terribly as a result of the world economic crisis. How could they overcome their present situation?

[Answer] I believe the problems of the third world are not related to petroleum. Their problems stem from high interest rates. I want to give you a little example: Here in Brazil a 1 percent increase in interest rates is equivalent to a 5 percent increase in petroleum prices. Thus the increase in interest rates is five times more damaging to the country's economy than an increase in petroleum prices. Everyone talks about petroleum prices but these are not the cause of the present world economic problems. There was a recession in 1979 which would have occurred any way, whether there was a petroleum price increase or not. I believe Saudi Arabia has been doing its best to cooperate with others both in the area of energy and that of investments. Yet if the United States and other Western countries have done nothing to overcome recession without pushing interest rates upwards by increasing their productivity and by reducing their expenditures to bring the economy to a point of equilibrium, we in the third world can do nothing to change the situation.

[Question] Do you then blame the United States for the crisis?

[Answer] I am not saying they are "guilty." I believe, however, that as leaders of the Western world they have responsibilities toward the other countries and what they have done was damaging to the others.

CSO: 3001/148

BRIEFS

CONTINENTAL DEFENSE SYSTEM--Brasilia--A general of the Brazilian Air Force (FAB) yesterday said that the Brazilian position toward Latin America, the United States and southern cone countries should be redefined after the South Atlantic conflict. He even considered the hypothesis of a Latin American defense system without U.S. participation because, he said, agreements should be made on an equal standing, among countries of the same level. The officer also said he believed that were it not for the British-Argentine conflict over the Falkland Islands, President Figueiredo's trip to the United States, scheduled months ago, would be more fruitful. Although he said he believed a Brazilian decision in terms of military strategy to be premature, he remarked that in that context Brazil should try a closer approach to southern cone countries, although from the economic viewpoint relations with the United States should not be disregarded. [Text] [PY202324 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 May 82 p 13]

ICEBREAKER FOR ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION--Brasilia--Brazilian Navy Minister Maximiano da Fonseca yesterday announced the purchase of a second hand Danish icebreaker for \$3 million. This ship will be used late this year in the first Brazilian expedition to the antarctic. The ship, which can carry 77 persons--including both scientists and crewmen--will be commissioned to the navy on 27 September upon being inspected at a dry dock by Brazilian experts. Minister da Fonseca stated that the navy was making a military sacrifice by cutting replacement programs in order to purchase the icebreaker. Another icebreaker will be purchased from Japan in 2 years in order to give logistical support to the Brazilian station to be built at the antarctic in 1983. Da Fonseca noted that the Brazilian antarctic project will be similar to that outlined by the British and will encompass five major areas: Earth research sciences, atmospheric research sciences, life research sciences, logistical support to the Brazilian station at the antarctic and human resources programs to train personnel. [Text] [PY280514 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 May 82 p 6]

CSO: 3001/148

EFFORTS TO FORGE UNITY OF LABOR UNIONS DEALT SETBACK

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 12 May 82 p 14

[Text]

ROSEAU:
THE RECENT decision by the Waterfront and Allied Workers Union (WAWU) not to participate in May Day celebrations here with the Civil Service Association (CSA), was a blow to efforts to unite the Labour movement in Dominica.

WAWU'S sudden decision a mere four days before the May 1 celebrations, caught the CSA, the main bargaining agent for government's employees by surprise.

The CSA said the move by WAWU only served to highlight "the elusiveness of that much sought after objective of the workers in general and civil servants in particular of a united trade union movement in Dominica."

"Today we in Dominica, particularly those of us in the trade union movement, can look back and feel proud that we have come a long way.

"The question is however, where does we go from here "Charles Savarin, General Secretary of the CSA told his membership in a May Day message.

Although coming to existence roughly around the same time, Dominica's three most powerful trade unions, the CSA, WAWU, and the Dominica Amalgamated Workers Union (DAWU), have failed in their quest formally come together, much less, pulling together, the other unions operating here into a probable Trades' Union Council.

The efforts go as far back as 1963, when at the initiative of the Dominica Amalgamated Workers Union, attempts were made to get the labour movement here to form a TUC.

The response at that time was positive. The CSA stated that it was prepared to give the idea its enthusiastic support.

The Dominica Trade Union, the oldest registered workers organisation here, recalled that it was over four years since it had had discussions with the Dominica union of teachers on that proposal which was mutually accepted in principle.

Despite the lukewarm support from WAWU because of a potential leadership struggle among the trade union leaders for the top posts within the TUC, copies of a draft constitution were circulated about a year after the idea was first moulded.

Following a lull in activity the trade unions leaders were all summoned to a meeting to "make positive steps for the creation of the trade union council."

But the meeting turned up obstacles that lift the plan to form a Dominica TUC hanging in the balance.

General Secretary of WAWU at the time, Patrick John said his organisation was prepared to form a TUC.

The CSA said its general membership "should decide whether the association should be a party or otherwise to this agreement."

But at the same time that efforts were underway to form the TUC, plans were being advanced for the formation of a rival Dominica Labour Congress by other trade unions, leaving out those actively involved in the formation of a TUC.

To date neither organisation has seen the light of day.

Rivalries and jealousies among unions here have conspired to keep them apart. Unions have been accused of poaching.

The most glaring example of trade union disunity surfaced here after the Government of Prime Minister Eugenia Charles entered into a three year balance of payments support loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The Civil Service Association, in order that the country would "receive the assistance needed urgently," accepted the governments wage

guidelines of no more than 10 percent per year for workers, much to the annoyance of other trade unions.

"The point is that without the IMF there would be much greater hardship than anything people can complain about today," Savarin contended.

But the National Workers Union (NWU) was among the labour organisations against the IMF conditions. So was the powerful Waterfront and Allied Workers union (WAWU), has its main support on the docks (Cana)

DFP WINS ROSEAU ELECTION BOYCOTTED BY OPPOSITION PARTIES

Bridgetown ADOVCATE-NEWS in English 13 May 82 p 3

[Text]

ROSEAU, Dominica, Wednesday (CANA) — The ruling Dominica Freedom Party (DFP) was already on the verge of a clean sweep of the Roseau City Council elections after opposition parties boycotted yesterday's nomination of candidates.

A statement from the acting chief elections officer Milton Green said that in three of the four double-member wards to be contested at the June 1 elections, only Freedom Party candidates had been nominated.

He explained that since only two candidates from the DFP had been nominated for each of these three wards, according to the constitution they were declared duly elected.

In the fourth ward, three candidates will face the electorate, two of them being from Freedom Party and the other an independent.

Among those being re-elected unopposed was the Mayor of the city of Roseau, Orlando Peltier.

Last month Government

introduced legislation to extend the term of office of the Roseau Council, as well as to extend the existing boundaries of the capital city to include at least one extra mile from all directions.

The Bill increased the number of councillors from eight to 13, with eight being elected and five nominated after the elections.

The opposition Dominica Labour Party and the Democratic Labour Party were to hold meetings in Roseau last night to give reasons why they boycotted the elections.

There has been no comment from the left-leaning Dominica Liberation Movement Alliance (DLMA).

The candidates declared winners so far are Christian Frederick, Oliver Joseph, Heskieth Williams, Fedeline Moulon, Evans Grell and Orlando Peltier.

A government backbencher Swanston Carbon is among the three candidates expected to face the electorate for the other two positions on the council.

SEAGA OUTLINES FEATURES OF STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PLAN

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 12 May 82 pp 1, 15

[Text] Details of the U.S. \$75-million loan from the World Bank to finance the Government's Structural Adjustment Programme which commenced last year were outlined yesterday by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga at a press briefing at Jamaica House.

Mr Seaga said the loan would be for 17 years at a rate of 11.6% and would have installments based on performance.

The programme is aimed at: Increased domestic savings; formulation of adequate investment programmes; improvement in the local investment climate; achievement of balance-of-payments equilibrium and development of a rational foreign exchange allocation mechanism; increased production in key sectors of the economy, mainly in Industry and Agriculture.

The Programme is also aimed at an estimated 30,000 more jobs annually, a target which the Prime Minister said, had already been achieved.

Mr Seaga said Jamaica needed about 45,000 new jobs a year to enable it to reduce unemployment significantly. The 30,000 annual projection assumed the spin-offs from employment in Agriculture and Manufacturing.

Announcements had already been made, he said, on additional programmes of employment for the formal economy and to produce the additional 15,000 jobs. The Human Employment and Resources Training (H.E.A.R.T.) Fund would play a very crucial role, as it would finance the development of employment opportunities which normally would not be produced from the straightforward model of development.

"So there is, in fact, a specific strategy to develop employment to enable us to meet the targets we are hoping to meet to relieve the unemployment situation," Mr Seaga said, adding that some employment would come from the structural Programme and some from the additional programmes.

The normal investment process would not produce jobs in some areas and special investment programmes would be required, and a combination of special investments and structural adjustment would be required to meet the target.

Copies of a booklet "Structural Adjustment of the Jamaican Economy (S.A.J.E.) 1982-1987" prepared by the National Planning Agency, were issued by the Prime Minister.

The booklet in its preface quoted Mr Seaga as saying that the structural adjustment was a basic prerequisite for economic transformation and the achievement of the short, medium and long-term development objectives of the country.

The success of the programme was assured, if it secured the full support of all groups in the productive process as well as consumers, the preface said.

"To this end, an invitation is issued to all entities in the public and private sectors--workers and their unions, employers and citizens' organizations--to unite around this common objective so critical to the long-term viability of the Jamaican economy, in order to complete within the decade of the '80s, the process of structural transformation."

Stating that the programme was already substantially in place, the booklet said the Programme was based upon complementary measures designed to:--

- increase domestic savings, including public sector savings and establish such lending institutions as are necessary to induce the flow of investment resources;

- formulate adequate investment programmes and, in particular, a Public Sector investment programme and a related financing plan, in order to rationalize the investment activities of the public sector in line with the development strategy announced;

- improve the local investment climate so as to attract private external capital and encourage the repatriation of Jamaican capital and migrant's savings;

- achieve balance-of-payments equilibrium and also develop a rational foreign-exchange allocation mechanism, which will ensure the greatest efficiency in the allocation of foreign exchange. The licensing system which is part of the allocative mechanism will be made as efficient as possible;

- increase production in key sectors of the economy, for example, Agriculture and Industry and, in the process, make these sectors significant contributors to the effort to secure balance-of-payment equilibrium.

On the last foregoing, the booklet said that in this regard, the manufacturing sector must be significantly transformed, inasmuch as it must move from the position of being the largest single net user of foreign exchange of all sectors in the economy, to being a net contributor to net foreign-exchange earnings.

In the case of the agricultural sector, all opportunities for the development of agricultural exports will be fully exploited and the sector's contribution to domestic food supply will be vastly improved. In the process, it will become an important supplier of raw materials to the manufacturing sector, an important provider of jobs in the economy and an important contributor to foreign exchange earnings.

EDITORIAL CRITICAL OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO BOOST INDUSTRY

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 7 May 82 p 12

[Editorial: "Problems of Industry"]

[Text] The Government, according to the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Mr Vaz, has identified six subsectors of industry on the basis of their export potential and where the demand for imported raw material was low. The subsectors selected for special attention are the garment sector, footwear and leather products, agroindustrial products, furniture and wood products, automotive parts and electrical and electronic products.

The identification in these areas is consistent with the Government's emphasis on the development of sectors of the economy with capacity for quick growth, especially in foreign exchange earnings, and in the creation of additional employment. Indeed, the development of industries with large indigenous raw material content is a step in the right direction as not only does this promote self-reliance but it has important balance-of-payments implications for the country. Mr Vaz, from his review of the performance of industry in 1981, appears confident that the projected growth in these selected sectors can be realised. We have no doubt that the potential is there.

There is far to go, however. While there may be an upsurge in demand for factory space from the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation, a reflection of the renewed interest in industry, this is an inadequate index of the state of industry. The irony is that side by side with the demand for factory space are reports of temporary shut-down of factories for want of raw materials.

The president of the Jamaica Manufacturers' Association Mr R. Anthony Williams, has stated that as a result of the raw material shortage there is a considerable under-utilization of capacity. Foreign exchange will not materialise by the waving of a wand, but one is concerned at the, perhaps, simplistic use of applications for factory space as a measure of economic recovery.

Much of the difficulties arise from an inefficient and unwieldy bureaucracy. Despite reports of a modernisation of the import licencing process there are still complaints of the lengthy process in respect of the procurement of licenses. Some manufacturers claim that their applications for licences have been under consideration since January. The Government has announced eight categories of items which will no longer need import licences, but a look at

the list of items involved reveals that few traditional manufacturers will be affected by this change.

Manufacturers continue to be affected by a lack of adequate financing, and are worried by the conditions of the Export Development Fund, for example. According to the JMA president, the Association has proposed a reduction in the guarantee requirement under the Fund from the current 100 percent to 50 percent. Manufacturers are, in effect, asking Government to absorb the credit risk, but the Government is obviously saying that it is in no position to bear that risk and this, presumably, is one reason the Government is encouraging joint-ventures between Jamaican and overseas investors. The Government believes that manufacturers can utilize lines of credit but, manufacturers cannot attract the long-term lines of credit (over 360 days) which are acceptable to Government.

Therefore, none of these proposals being put forward by the Government appears to meet the present problems of local manufacturers. The problems are real, and won't go away because they are being ignored.

CSO: 3025/288

AGRICULTURAL BUDGET LISTS EXPENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 May 82 p 6

[Article by Ivorall Davis]

[Text] Focusing on the development of an Agricultural Sector capable of improving the living standards of the people of Jamaica and advancing the Nation's economy, the Ministry of Agriculture has blue-printed a Capital Budget of \$125,860,300 to cover a multi-faceted agricultural programme during the 1982/83 financial year.

Embracing 58 heads and subheads, the Ministry-funded projects account for \$60,670,000, while Multilateral/Bilateral programmes will absorb \$65,190,200. Together they amount to \$24,601,100 more than was provided in the 1981/82 Approved Estimates, and give the Ministry of Agriculture pride of place as being second only to the Ministry of Finance in Capital Budget financing.

"The task facing the Ministry in the months ahead as we strive to upgrade the agricultural sector of the economy, reconstruct and improve rural life throughout Jamaica and make a great trust to feed the Nation, are very challenging. But I am fully confident that the work of the dedicated and enthusiastic staff of the Ministry and all the agencies involved in agricultural development Islandwide, backed by the people of Jamaica, will ensure the success of the programme," Agriculture Minister, Dr Percival Broderick said yesterday.

All the major strategies for the implementation of the Capital Budget provisions have been worked out by the Ministry's staff and many of the projects are under-way.

The following are some of the Capital Budget provisions:

--Agricultural Research covering livestock and crops, \$1,330,000.

--Livestock Development, including the payment of subsidy to farmers providing bull semen-operating expenses for Midland Enterprises, veterinary services, \$3,640,000.

--Crop Care and Protection, a Crop Care Project, Coffee Berry Borer Control, Banana Leaf Spot Control and Plant protection, \$9,800,000.

--Special Programmes such as agricultural mechanical services, minor irrigation, forest development, development of off-shore fishing, improvements to public gardens and Zoo, \$10,170,000.

--Land Administration covering the acquisition of lands for land settlement and the expansion of banana production for export, and final surveys on land settlement properties that have been sold to private individuals, \$3,500,000.

--Subsidies for fertilizer, a special assistance programme and the citrus expansion scheme, \$7,500,000.

--Plant Production, nursery production of plants and other planting material for food and tree production, rice farms and seed farm project, \$4,600,000.

--Rural Development: rural youth settlements, agricultural skills training, Project Land Lease (to maintain the infrastructure works on Land Lease properties until they are converted to the freehold system of tenure), temporary Agricultural Aides to provide additional support to Field Assistants and Extension Officers within the Land Authorities and eventually increasing Extension Officers from one Extension Officer to 500 farmers to one Officer for every 350 farmers, aided self-help schemes and rural farm family development, \$15,000,000.

--Jamaica Agricultural Research, \$7,000,000 to accommodate institutional framework and physical facilities necessary for conducting research work in livestock, crops and plant protection as well as the building of a complex at Montpelier and the expansion of the Bodles Station, which is estimated to cost \$16,741,000 and is jointly financed by the Government of Jamaica and the Inter-American Development Bank.

--Production and Extension: Agricultural planning, Second Rural Integrated Development Project, Banana Plantation Project tank building programme, etc., \$29,520,100.

--Infrastructure including construction of microdams Hague/Meylersfield Drainage Project \$4,600,000.

--Construction of Rural Markets at a final cost of \$17,800,000, a four-year project funded jointly by the Jamaican Government and the International Development Bank.

--Agricultural Marketing Development, a six-year project to improve the living standards of farmers, consumers and market intermediaries by the establishment of a Marketing Division at the Ministry of Agriculture, the construction of wholesale markets and grading stations and the training of personnel in the marketing services. This project is in its second year and is funded by the Government of Jamaica and US/AID. Final cost will be \$52,784,000.

The Ministry's Recurrent Budget is \$50,798,830 and contained provision for several other development projects which are already in progress. The total Budget for the Ministry is \$176,659,130.

CSO: 3025/288

SPEAKERS IN BUDGET DEBATE NOTE ECONOMIC PROGRESS SCORED

Vaz on New Factories

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 5 May 82 p 12

[Text] By July of this year, the Government is to build 204,000 square feet of factory space at a total cost of \$11 million, the Minister of Industry and Commerce, the Hon. Douglas Vaz, told the House of Representatives last Wednesday.

Speaking in the last 1982/83 budget debate, Mr Vaz said that the factories were started in November 1981. All but 50,000 square feet of space has already been "solidly booked" and there were "fairly firm commitments" on the rest.

In Nanse Pen, 48,000 square feet were being built and usage has already been identified, with employment for 150 persons. The 48,000 square feet were broken down into six units of 8,000 square feet each, the production there including printing, paper-converting, garments and woodwork.

At Naggo Head, 81,500 square feet were being built. Although the Naggo Head Industrial Estate was opened by this Government in 1971 and one factory started since then the one factory had been closed and no improvements made. The factory was reopened in June, 1981 and three new factories are to be built on the new 81,500 square feet.

Rural Plants

At Temple Hall, in St Andrew, within the next two months a 25,000 square feet factory will be established which will be involved in food processing, among other things.

Another area where building was going on was in Montego Bay, where 49,500 square feet of factory space was being constructed near the Freeport, which was expected to produce some 400 jobs.

Speaking on the projected construction over the next three years, the Minister said that the programme envisaged the construction of an additional 1.72 million square feet of factory space at a total cost of \$81.9 million.

Mr Vaz said that it was important to note that the additional factories he had mentioned, were in addition to 124 factory sites which the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation already had, most of which are small-industry complexes.

A.M.C. Changes

On another subject, the Agricultural Marketing Corporation, Mr Vaz said that the seven branches, despite arguments to the contrary, had continued operating and one branch was taken over by the farmers at Guy's Hill through their Land Authority.

Total grants from the Budget to the A.M.C. to fund deficits between 1976 and 1981 was \$24 million, which was nearly \$5 million a year in losses to taxpayers.

Noting that the main problem over the years was losses from pilferage, dumping and spoilage, the Minister said that a new Board for the Corporation was established last year by the Government and it had tackled the problems of the Corporation with "a lot of courage and imagination."

One of the new policies was to make the A.M.C. more export-oriented and to develop an extensive market system which would revolve heavily around the computerizing of the A.M.C.

Mr Vaz said that the Government's policies with regard to the A.M.C. could be tested by the successes which had been achieved.

Under the P.N.P., the A.M.C. saw no need to export. In 1976/77 it exported \$109,000; 1980/81 it exported \$1.3 million; but in 1981/82, the corporation exported over \$2 million dollars although the figures were available only up to February, 1982.

Internal losses were also being reduced in 1980, 2.1 million pounds of food produce were dumped at a loss of \$1 million. This was reduced in 1981 to 1.6 million pounds at a loss of \$627,000.

Stock losses incurred in 1980 of 1.5 million pounds at a cost of \$808,000. This was reduced in 1981 to 335,000 pounds at \$295,000. Therefore, loss as a percentage of purchases had been reduced from 22.5% to 15% in one year.

New Companies

Speaking on the registration of new companies, the Minister said that the improvements were "staggering." They showed the level of confidence being reposed by entrepreneurs and the level of investments taking place.

Between 1976 and 1980, the number of companies registered fluctuated between 528 and 678 per annum, an average of 635. In that period, the total number on the register rose from 12,800 to 14,500, an increase of 13% over four years.

During the financial year 1980-81, 937 new companies were registered, an increase of 47.6% and in 1981/82, 2,113 new companies, were registered--a staggering increase of 232.8% above the four year period 1976 to 1980.

By the end of March this year, 19,081 companies were registered.

Vaz on Manufacturing Jobs

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 5 May 82 p 12

[Text] Employment in the Manufacturing Sector grew by 8.3% or by 6,100 new jobs in 1981, the Minister of Industry and Commerce the Hon. Douglas Vaz, told Parliament last week Wednesday.

Speaking in the Budget Debate, Mr Vaz said that, on an annual basis, employment in the Manufacturing Sector increased by 7.1% or 5,000 jobs between 1980 and 1981, and the number of unemployed in that sector decreased by 1,600 or 6%.

In terms of employment in Manufacturing, in 1981 employment in that sector reached the highest level for the ten years 1972 to 1981.

In commerce, an average of 102,000 people were employed last year--the highest in the history of Jamaica, and the first time that employment in commerce reached over the six-figure mark.

Speaking on investments, Mr Vaz said that in 1981 the Government was successful in establishing a favourable investment climate and at the end of March, 50 new projects in Manufacturing were in production involving over \$76 million in capital, and employment potential of 2,100.

Eleven projects, representing \$31.5 million in capital and potential employment of 1,000 have already started.

Of expansion last year, he said that 49 such operations took place which the Government knew about, with potential employment of 2,500.

Mr Vaz said that expansion would always out number new projects, because of the planning and outlay necessary for new industries.

What was equally important was that a number of abandoned industries were now back in operation under Jamaican ownership and management and with local financing and were expanding.

Two examples were Kelly's Engineering Limited and the Jamaican Heritage factory.

Of the 49 companies which had expanded--and these companies rarely needed Government approval except for applications for duty waivers--they were involved in the production of corned beef, buns, garbage bags, bathroom fixtures, paper plates and cups, garments, pork sausages, food juices, breads, poultry and animal feed, locks and bolts, educational toys, craftwork and prescription lenses.

Some of the expansions involved areas where Jamaica had totally previously depended on imports. "Against the goals that we set for performance in investment in 1981, this is proof positive, back-up by numbers, that the Manufacturing sector has performed in the area of improving and increasing investments," Mr Vaz said.

Shearer on Economic Recovery

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 6 May 82 p 7

[Text]

• **Many aspects of the Government's performance were dealt with by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the RT. HON. HUGH SHEARER, in his Budget Speech in the House of Representatives on Tuesday. Here is a further summary of what he said:**

REMINDING THE HOUSE and the nation about the circumstances that the Government had to deal with over the past 18 months, Mr. Shearer said that there was criticism of the Government's model which suggested that the other model was better.

But, he said, the circumstances of the other model produced a total lack of foreign exchange arrears of over \$1 billion, rampant inflation, a huge Budget deficit increasingly financed by the Bank of Jamaica, deterioration in practically every service, loss of jobs through closure and lay-offs, of confidence in the minds and hearts of the Jamaican people, 10,000 jobs in the public sector in danger of being dismantled, gas rationing being considered, people thinking about going back to coal-stoves, and severe shortage of basic foods.

Against that background the Budget presentation indicated that there had been a turn-around. There was a reduction in inflation, a small foreign exchange surplus, all outstanding debts paid off; 2 per cent growth in the G.D.P., the spirit of confidence of the Jamaican people had shown a change "that is heartening to us".

"Although we recognise that there is much to be done, we can say we have recovered from the massive economic decline of the last few years," he said.

Mr. Shearer said that the recovery programme worked out with the I.M.F. was a three-year programme, "and we still maintain that economic recovery will take place in not less than that time."

Declaring that it was good and proper that the country should know what has been achieved so far "and the problems we have to face," Mr. Shearer said: "The ultimate objectives of all our efforts are to create more job opportunities to all our people, to reduce the unemployment rate and to improve the living standard."

"We recognise that to achieve our objectives we have to improve our production as a country and to produce efficiently; but we fully recognise that to do all of this we have to rehabilitate and refurbish our

infrastructure, ensure availability of foreign exchange for the productive sector, to encourage our enterprise and talents so they will be willing to invest in our country's future. That is what the Budget before us is all about."

NOTING THE IMPROVEMENT of 33 percent over the 1980-81 Budget, Mr. Shearer said this accounted for 71 percent of projected recurrent expenditure. Salaries and wages in the public sector totalled \$837 million this year, whereas that just before the elections the problem was to cut the figure by \$40 million or put 10,000 people out of work.

"Under this Government, we have not only reversed this trend but given increases in both years and the bill has reached \$837 million," he said.

Also, the minimum wage for temporary clerks and messengers in the Government services as a result of negotiations moved to \$5,070 per annum or \$18.80 per day as the new minimum rate.

The Government had given \$29 per week increase on basic wage in the public sector, along with "a whole range of fringe benefits" including the agreement that vacation leave should be calculated on work days, not calendar days, thereby increasing the vacation leave by 40 percent.

Looking at some of the allocations, Mr. Shearer pointed out that Central Government had received \$475 million, an increase of \$112 million over 1980/81; Local Government \$362 million, an increase of \$82.4 million over the 1980/81 allocation of \$279.6 million.

Before this Government took office, the strategy had been to cut costs, reduce jobs and freeze wages. This Government was increasing wages. The economy was being so managed that it was able to pay these extra salaries and wages and to meet its other expenses.

"The economy has been so managed that we are able to increase the budget by 33 percent without one cent tax increase," he said.

Pointing out that interest payments rose from \$33 million in 1972 to \$508 million in 1982, Mr. Shearer said that a number of factors had contributed to this. First of all, there was a faster growth in Government expenditure over the growth in tax revenue and recurrent expenditure.

Since 1969, interest rates had been climbing and this in turn affected the revenue of the Government.

DRAWING ATTENTION to Government's emphasis on training, Mr. Shearer said that Education had received a substantial allocation of \$358 million, linked to \$14 million to the Ministry of Youth, \$31 1/2 million to the Ministry of Health, \$2.7 million to the Prime

Minister's Office in the area of Culture, and \$3 million to the Ministry of Public Utilities and Transport, along with grants to Basic Schools and grants to various programmes at the University of the West Indies.

There was a provision of \$4million for training through the Ministry of Agriculture, and there were job opportunities such as the \$17million to be spent on rural roads, \$6 million on rural towns and \$18 million for increased production of housing.

Old Age assistance has increased to \$9 million, an increase of \$664,000 over the amount provided in 1980/81.

Mr. Shearer went on to say that the private sector had a role to play. "We are not satisfied that in the private sector sufficient training is being done," he said.

There hardly seemed to be any desire on the part of the private sector to employ inexperienced job seekers, he said, pointing out that this was confirmed in the advertisements in the daily newspapers.

Mr. Shearer said that the new programme H.E.A.R.T., should not be interpreted that that was all the private sector must do. There was need for substantial effort on its part to assist in employment of more people and to provide opportunities for inexperienced job-seekers to get employment. It could help by giving scholarship opportunities not only to C.A.S.T and the U.W.I., but to other institutions.

ALTHOUGH THE ECONOMY was being managed with the co-operation and support from various areas, there was still more to be done, Mr. Shearer went on.

"We have to produce more goods and services, we have to export more goods and services, we have to produce more to earn more foreign exchange to pay off the accumulated debts and buy the current needs of the country," he said.

There was need for substantial improvement in the country's production. "Whilst the Government is doing its production, we urge the private sector to pursue

their expansions, through suitable joint ventures out of which they can secure suitable markets and financial inputs at suitable terms".

In the strategy of the Government for development, there was a role for the private sector to play. Everything was being put into place as best as possible to enable them to play their role.

TURNING TO TRADE PERFORMANCE, Mr. Shearer said domestic exports showed improved earnings from \$1.689 billion in 1980 to \$1.780 billion in 1981. The markets were there in the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States.

"Even though we have done better, the figures need substantial improvement because of the objectives of the country and the urgency to increase revenues to catch up with the backlog and to keep apace with current demands," Mr. Shearer said.

Overall performance indicated a significant growth trend. Total export of non-traditional goods for 1981 was \$283.5 million, \$31.3 million more than 1980 or 12.4 percent.

Jamaica exported \$123.7 million to CARICOM, \$23.5 million more than 1980 or 23.4 percent.

Giving a breakdown on the trade performance for the first three months of this year, Mr. Shearer said that in January exports to CARICOM was \$6.8 million; that is, \$3.9 million over January last year. In February it was \$10 million, or \$3.2 million more than in February last year. And in March it was \$12.1 million or \$5.1 million over March 1981.

In the three months of the year so far, the country had exported \$30.9 million, an increase of over \$12.2 million over the corresponding period last year. He indicated also the extent to which exports to Canada, the EEC, the United Kingdom, Germany and the United States all showed increases.

"We are not resting on these figures. Substantial improvement is needed", Mr. Shearer said.

SEAGA APPEALS FOR SYMPATHY FOR OPPOSITION IN HOUSE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 7 May 82 p 2

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER
Edward Seaga has appealed to Government members to have "sympathy" for the Opposition in the House of Representatives.

His appeal came as a result of a point raised in the House on Tuesday by Mr. Terrence Gillette (P.N.P.), just before Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, began his Budget speech.

Mr. Gillette said he had sought and received the Speaker's permission to raise the matter, since it was an issue that needed to be aired.

Mr. Gillette then spoke of the attitude of Government members in the House towards the Opposition whenever the Opposition had the occasion to address the House.

BACKGROUND

Before he could conclude what he was saying, the Minister of Public Utili-

ties and Transport, the Hon. Parnell Charles, rose on a Point of order. Mr. Charles said the member was imputing motive and asked that he withdraw what he had said "since Members over here have not been harassing any member of the Opposition."

Speaking on the matter, the Prime Minister said that he would not like it to be treated in any manner without looking at the background.

When the present Government was in opposition they were treated to merciless harassment from Government members. Sometimes in the Budget Debate few people from the Government turned up.

"Nevertheless, as an Opposition we stood our ground and used the opportunity to debate and draw the attention of the Government side to the points we wanted to debate," he said. Adding that he had hoped the Opposition now would have done the same.

Mr. Seaga said that in the last many years "we suffered from an attitude of arrogance" but he would not like to see that "we on this side of the House are doing likewise."

EVEN SCALES

"When we were in Opposition, we were a better Opposition than they are, and when we are the government, we will be a better government than they were. And being a better Government does not mean doing the things they used to do, so I am asking the members in this side to have sympathy with the Opposition."

The Speaker, the Hon. Talbert Forrest, said he had been endeavouring to hold the scales even but that he tipped it sometimes in favour of the Opposition.

Both sides of the House had the right to be heard "Whether they talk sense or nonsense," he said.

What flowed from this was that all Members must recognise that right, he added.

WATER PROBLEMS PERSIST; WAGE CLAIMS CAUSE CONCERN

Commission Chairman's Remarks

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 May 82 p 2

[Text]

Claims being made by the unions on behalf of the National Water Commission workers now on strike would cost the Commission some \$26-million to settle, the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Cecil Charlton, said on Friday.

Mr. Charlton was speaking at a press conference at which he gave the Commission's side of the issue which has led to a disruption of the water supply in the Corporate Area.

"The N.W.C. as it stands cannot in any way absorb this colossal claim from sections of its staff at the moment. It is to be clearly understood that the Commission headed by me respects all workers and especially those who are connected to our organisation. This is to say that at no time, knowing the cost of living, that we would ever attempt to brush their claims aside without giving them serious thought.

"Notwithstanding this, the claims will have to be examined alongside our ability to pay," Mr. Charlton said.

The most that he was able to finalise, he added, after getting the go-ahead from the government through the Minister, was \$15 a week in the first year and \$14 in the second year, which would cost the Commission roughly \$5.5 million. This offer had been rejected by the unions, the Bustamante Industrial

Trade Union, the National Workers Union, the Jamaica Association of Local Government Officers and the Jamaica Union of Public Officers and Public Employees.

Mr. Charlton said that the Constant Spring filter plant was opened on Wednesday night and over a million gallons of water ran to waste. Valves at the Hope Filter plant were also opened that night causing water to run into the system, disrupting the ordered distribution.

Stating that he was glad that the workers and the unions had dissociated themselves from these acts, Mr. Charlton said there were certain "unscrupulous bodies operating in the country in such an unscrupulous way that they are prepared to bring the country and its people to ransom because of their own sinister motives.

Mr. Charlton appealed to all good people, militant men and women "to be our own Police and Army and assist in bringing to an end this vandalism that has grown up like a mushroom to destroy this country."

"To the good citizens, I ask you to bear with us and hold fast. To the vandals, I warn that you may be able to open valves at the Hope filter plant and release water, but you will not be able to open the valves of Jamaica and release honesty and integrity."

Mr. Charlton said weekend rains had brought the storage in the Hermitage Dam to 90 million gallons from a low of 60 million.

Police, Army Control

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 May 82 p 1

[Text] All National Water Commission premises and the entire N.W.C. distribution system have now been placed under the control of the joint Security Forces (Police and Military).

This was announced by the N.W.C. last night in a release which also said that "a Military and Police base is being established at the NWC's Marescaux Road compound to coordinate the activities of N.W.C. engineers and supervisors and those members of the security forces who are helping with the operation of the system, and to provide protection for those NWC employees who are still at work."

This is the latest development at the N.W.C. since hourly-paid and weekly-paid workers at the Commission went on strike on April 29 to back demands for more pay and fringe benefits.

Since then there has been numerous reports of sabotage of NWC equipment, resulting in loss of millions of gallons of water and parts of the Corporate Area and St Catherine being without water.

Members of the Security Forces called in by the N.W.C. have been investigating the reports of sabotage as well as helping N.W.U. workers still on the job to restore water to those areas from which supplies had been cut off and to keep the distribution system functioning.

There have also been reports of intimidation of some N.W.C. workers who are still on the job.

The unions representing the striking workers have denied that their members have been engaged in sabotage or intimidation.

The N.W.C. release last night also said that as of yesterday evening "entry to all N.W.C. plants and facilities will be by permission of the Security Forces." These new moves were decided on at a meeting convened yesterday afternoon by the Minister of Public Utilities and Transport, the Hon. Parnell Charles, and which was attended by the Chairman, Mr Cecil Charlton and senior executives of the N.W.C. and by members of the Security Forces High Command.

The workers on strike are represented by the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union, the National Workers Union, the Jamaica Association of Local Government Officers, and the Jamaica Union of Public Officers and Public Employees.

Strike Settlement

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 11 May 82 pp 1, 12

[Text]

EMPLOYEES OF the National Water Commission are to commence a phased resumption of work this morning, but normality is not expected in the service until next Monday.

The Industrial Disputes Tribunal at a six-hour meeting yesterday got the Commission and the unions representing the workers — BITU, NUW, JUPOPE and JALGO — to agree to five conditions of a resumption but had to serve an Order for the sixth.

Agreement was reached on the following:

Mechanical, electrical and workshop employees, as well as the office services staff which is responsible for cleaning the offices, will resume at 7.30 a.m. today.

Employees who are employed at the Hope, Constant Spring and Seaview Filter plants, as well as those employed as Operators at the Ferry and Tulloch Spring plants and those employed in the Darling Street Pumping Station, the Western Treatment plant at Producer's Road and the Greenwich sewerage plant, all should resume at 3 p.m. today.

Clerical, draughtsmen and secretarial staff are to resume tomorrow at 8.30 a.m.

However, the Commission and the unions could not agree when the rest of the workers should resume. The Unions urged that all workers should resume by tomorrow. The Commission's management said that all the workers could not start work tomorrow but they could report for duty.

MR. SYDNEY SMALL, Managing Director of the Commission, told the Tribunal that because of certain acts of sabotage which had occurred during the strike it was not prudent to withdraw the Security Forces immediately, nor would the Commission be able to assign workers until the system was regularized.

Mr. Small agreed to the proposals which ultimately formed the agreement, but suggested that the rest of the work force should make themselves available for assign-

ments, as it would take the better part of the week to get everybody in place.

Mr. Lascelles Beckford, representing the BITU, and who was the chief spokesman for the unions at the meeting, said that since the Commission had said that 95% of the areas were getting water, there could be no problem in getting the entire work force back in place by tomorrow.

Mr. Small said that the Commission could not deploy the entire staff by tomorrow.

MR. LEN TOMLINSON, Chairman of the Tribunal, warned that if the unions and the Commission could not agree when the rest of the work force should resume, the Tribunal would have to issue an Order.

Mr. Tomlinson also announced that the tribunal would give the parties 21 days to meet at any other level of negotiations. They should report back within 21 days with their briefs for deliberations to commence, if they failed to reach an agreement.

The Tribunal, which also included Mr. Chester Burgess and Mr. Joseph McPherson, then adjourned for ten minutes to allow the Commission's management to discuss the objection to their proposals on resuming.

After the ten minutes, Mr. Small reported that the workers would be deployed between Wednesday and

Monday, and they should report for duty as of Wednesday morning at the Cavaliers plant, to be assigned.

Mr. Beckford said that that had never been done before and that "normalcy is normalcy". He said that the workers must report to their respective normal place of work. He said that the unions could not be a party to an agreement for resumption which had a condition attached.

The Tribunal then decided to attach to the agreements for the resumption of work which the parties had settled earlier an Order which stated: "The Tribunal orders full resumption of all other categories of workers as of May 12, 1982 at 7.30 a.m."

All parties signed the agreement.

Mr. Claude O'Reagan represented JUPOPE and Mr. Charles Knight represented NUW. Mr. Owen Burnett also represented the BITU.

CSO: 3025/287

\$30 MILLION LOSS IN SUGAR INDUSTRY MAY RESULT FROM STRIKE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 11 May 82 pp 1, 12

[Text]

A TOTAL LOSS of \$30-million could result from the recent strike of workers in Jamaica's sugar industry, according to Mr. Astil Sangster, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, who has special responsibility for sugar.

A loss of \$4-million has already been experienced and unless the factories can now "take off" from the fields and mill 350,000 tons of cane which was not milled during the period of strike, an additional \$26-million loss would be incurred.

Mr. Sangster said that, despite its many problems, the sugar industry is now poised for recovery. "But unless there is total commitment and co-operation from all those involved in the industry, this recovery will not take place," he declared.

"For example, the recent strike of workers at the sugar factories has created a serious setback in the industry. The strike took place at a time when we were enjoying the best weather conditions and the TC/TS (tonnage of cane per ton of sugar) ratio was at its peak.

ADDRESSING MEMBERS of the Jamaica Association of Sugar Technologists (JAST) at their annual awards banquet at the Rose-Hall Inter-Continental Hotel on Saturday night, Mr. Sangster chose to, as he said, "place the (sugar) industry in historical perspective."

Despite being plagued by problems over the years, the sugar industry "has demonstrated through its capacity for

employment generation, foreign exchange earnings, development of important by-products such as rum and molasses, and through its stabilizing influence in rural Jamaica, that it is indeed the cornerstone of the Jamaican economy."

During the '70s it entered into a period of "staggering decline". Between 1972 and 1980 there was a 33.8 per cent decline in production — a fall from 373,000 tons to 247,000 tons.

Mr. Sangster also spoke of the situation of indebtedness in the industry which the present Government had inherited on taking office. There was a deficit of \$200.9 million made up as follows: National Sugar Company, \$101 million; Sugar Industry Authority \$27-million; United Sugar Workers Co-operative Council, \$72.9 million.

Further decline was experienced in 1981 as a result of conditions which prevailed in 1980.

SINCE TAKING OFFICE this Government had set in motion a programme for rehabilitating the industry. Among the measures taken were an acceleration of sugar-cane planting, financial support to the S.I.A., increase in fertilizer, and provision for

large-scale importation of trucks and spare parts.

The Government also undertook to completely re-structure the industry. As a result, decision was taken to abolish the Sugar Workers' Co-operatives and to close the Holland Factory. The lands formerly cultivated by the co-operatives were being leased to three of the factories to which they used to supply canes.

This re-structuring was intended to achieve a target of 350,000 tons of sugar by 1985, said Mr. Sangster, who emphasized that this target could be achieved only by the complete co-oper-

ation of all sectors of the industry.

Mr. Sangster noted that not only in Jamaica was the sugar industry going through lean times. For example, the Philippines had so far closed five of its factories. However, the sugar industry was of vital importance to Jamaica as a major employer of labour and an earner of foreign exchange.

AT THE DINNER, the Sugar Industry Authority's Cup for the Best Kept Sugar Factory last year was presented to Worthy Park. It was received by the manager, Mr. Owen Clarke, from the Chairman of the S.I.A., Mr. Trevor Donaldson.

The awards ceremony was presided over by the President of JAST, Mr. Robert Henriques.

CSO: 3025/288

BRIEFS

INDUSTRIAL LAYOFFS--Two major industrial concerns, Seprod Ltd and West Indies Glass Company Limited, are laying off more than 250 workers because of poor business and financial losses. Lay-off notice to over 100 weekly paid hourly-paid, and Monthly-paid workers at West Indies Glass Company Limited became effective last Saturday, while the notices to 150 Seprod workers will become effective in three weeks' time. At Seprod, the workers are represented by the BITU, while at West Indies Glass Company the workers are represented by the N.W.U. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 May 82 pp 1, 12]

PHONE WORKERS DISPUTE--Cable and Telex and overseas telephone services are again being affected as some 250 JAMINTEL workers resumed their work-to-rule yesterday afternoon, following a workers' meeting which failed to resolve the impasse over a new wage contract. The workers had resumed normal work last Wednesday to allow for further discussions to take place. They went on a work-to-rule on April 21 over the nonsettlement of wage increases and fringe benefits, being negotiated by the NWU which represents them. Cable, telex and, in some instances, telephone services were affected. Two meetings have been held with JAMINTEL management, but no agreement was reached. An NWU spokesman said yesterday that while the Government had stated that there would be no ceiling attached to wages and that bargaining should be based on the ability of the company to pay, the management of JAMINTEL was now saying that certain guidelines were involved. The spokesman said that the only guideline that the union was willing to abide by would be based on the company's profit-and-loss statement. THE GLEANER was unable to get a comment from the company's management. A dispute over who should rectify problems which have developed in the International Telephone Switching Centre of JAMINTEL has led to a strike by non-managerial staff and a shutdown of services at the company's Duke Street office in Kingston. The NWU members are protesting against the company's decision to invite a Swedish expert to investigate problems which have developed in the ITS center, and which have cut telephone links between Jamaica and the rest of the world. With the decision of the workers to go on strike, following their work-to-rule protest which has been in force since last week, there was a complete shutdown of overseas communication services yesterday. Not only cable and telex services were unavailable, but overseas telephone calls using the Distance Dialling System, could not be made. [Excerpts] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 7 May 82 p 1]

CANADIAN CRAFTS ORDER--An export order from Canada for craft items valued at over \$10,000 (Canadian) is now being filled by the Social Development Commission (SDC) with products from the community centres' craft development programme. The items include Jippi Jappa hats, clutch purses, embroidered yo-yoes, straw fans, coconut-shell brooches, maraccas shakers, place mats, wooden coasters and tea towels. This was disclosed by Minister of Youth and Community Development, the Hon. Errol Anderson, on April 26. Mr Anderson said that there was a prospect for further orders of craft items from United States. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 May 82 p 2]

TAX PACT WITH ISRAEL--Jamaica and Israel concluded negotiations on tax relief on April 22, when the chairman of the Revenue Board, Mr C. R. Miller, and Legal Counsel Miss Daphne Wilson met with officials from the Israeli Ministry of Finance at the Kingston Mall offices of the Revenue Board. The Israeli team of Mrs Sarah Schweid-Galadi and Dr Issac Swary concluded negotiations for a draft double taxation relief convention which first began in 1980. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 7 May 82 p 18]

RELATIONS WITH BOTSWANA--The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, has announced that Jamaica has established diplomatic relations with Botswana. The formal signing ceremony took place in New York on May 4. Mr Peter Bartlett, Jamaica's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, signed on behalf of the Government of Jamaica and Botswana's Ambassador Legwaila Joseph Manson John Legwaila, signed for his Government. The joint Communique which was issued after the signing reads: "The Government of Jamaica and the Government of Botswana are desirous of developing and strengthening their relation in the interest of peace and co-operation among peoples and, on the basis of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as of the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of any country, or the non-use of force in international relations, of the peaceful settlement of disputes and of the other principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations have agreed to establish Diplomatic Relations between their two countries, at Ambassadorial level on 4th May, 1982." [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 May 82 p 2]

BLOW TO TOURISM--Shock waves are still running through the Jamaican tourist industry following the sensational collapse of Sunflight Vacations Ltd., of Toronto, which has been sending thousands of Canadian visitors to Jamaica for some years now and has been responsible for thousands of dollars worth of business to the island. Tourist industry sources were still trying yesterday to come up with a figure of the extent of the loss, in money terms, as a result of the debacle, but up to late in the day there was nothing like a final figure. However, most sources agreed that the figure could run into "millions of dollars," having regard to the fact that Sunflight has been sending some 10,000 tourists to Jamaica during the winter season and another 5,000 during the summer season. "That adds up to a hell of a lot of money," one North Shore hotel operator commented to the GLEANER last night. Many of the island's hotels have been hit by the collapse of Sunflight Vacations. One of the hardest hit is reported to be Jamaica Hilton, in Ocho Rios, whose loss may run into the high six-figures. Others which are reported to have taken a heavy blow are Rose Hall Intercontinental, in Montego Bay; the Americana in Ocho Rios; and the Shaw Park Beach, also in Ocho Rios. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 12 May 82 pp 1, 15]

TAPIA HOUSE MOVEMENT LEADER AIRS PLANS FOR FUTURE

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 30 Apr 82 p 3

[Text]

TAPIA HOUSE Movement plans to undertake a study of a multi-sectoral plan which will look at the views and ideas of non-government sectors. This study will parallel one being conducted by the William Demas task force which had been appointed by Government to draw up a plan for Trinidad and Tobago.

This came out at a Press conference held at Tapia House yesterday by Senator Lloyd Best, leader of the Tapia House Movement, at which Mr Best put forward Tapia's plans for the re-establishment of the Trinidad and Tobago Institute for the West Indies.

Senator Best said that Tapia was in the process of raising funds to buy the land on which the burnt out premises had been built and it was hoped that within the next two or three years an "open university" would be established whereby students of the Caribbean could undertake correspondence courses for O and A level examinations as well as for first year university courses.

He pointed out that Tapia

had already conducted courses for students of the Caribbean and that these had been successful. On a wider scale, Tapia, he said, would be in a position to cater to more students throughout the Caribbean as it already had the nuclear capacity for research as well as an established printing and publishing reputation.

Senator Best also announced Tapia plans to construct a building which will house a library and related services for students on the site of the burnt out building on Cipriani Boulevard in Port of Spain.

The immediate hurdle, according to Senator Best, is that of raising some \$150,000 within the next two months through subscriptions for its periodical, the Trinidad and Tobago Review.

It will also approach the National Institute of Higher Education Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST) for aid in re-building its library, as well as business firms and other organisations for the re-establishment of the institute.

BLITZ ON GARBAGE TO DETER EPIDEMIC ROUSES UNION IRE

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 1 May 82 p 1

[Text]

SOLID WASTE Management Company Limited (SWMCOL) launched a blitz on the mounds of garbage in the city yesterday morning.

A few hours later the Port-of-Spain City Council met in special session to okay SWMCOL's move which Mayor George Neehall described as being necessary to ward off a possible outbreak of an epidemic.

But the action in bringing in SWMCOL — a State-owned company — has incurred the wrath of the Amalgamated Workers' Union (AWU) protecting daily-paid workers of the Corporation and the Labour Congress.

In another development the Attorney General Senator Russell Martineau the Chief Personnel Officer, Mr. Hilton Cupid; Mr. Oscar Blenman, Deputy City Clerk, and other City Council officials yesterday held extensive discussions on the matter.

It was reported that the parties delved into the question of violation of the Industrial Relations Act (IRA) on the part of the workers. Under the Act, employees engaged in essential services are forbidden to take industrial action.

NO MAN'S LAND

It is understood that SWMCOL threw several units into the exercise of clearing the massive garbage pileup on instructions from Central Government, following a request from Prime Minister George Chambers.

The SWMCOL team operated under the protective eyes of plain-clothes policemen who were in unmarked vehicles.

Mr. Flavius Nurse Secretary of the AWU, said SWMCOL was now effectively a "scab company" which in trade union jargon means a strike breaker.

He explained:

"The CPO left the workers in 'no man's land' with his refusal to sign the papers referring our dispute to the Labour Ministry, and the next thing we know is SWMCOL is cleaning the city... that is nothing but scab..."

However, Mayor Neehall said the Council was forced to act in the interest of protecting the health of the burgesses and others entering the city.

"We do not want to interfere with the workers' fight for better working conditions because we are concerned with their welfare, but the health of the citizens is of vital importance."

He told the special meet-

ing at which he moved the motion asking SWMCOL to perform the clean-up task, the situation was most deplorable and it might give rise to an upsurge of gastroenteritis.

The meeting, which lasted six and a half minutes, approved the motion and SWMCOL is to operate until the dispute is settled.

After the session the Mayor headed the full council on an inspection tour of the city.

Yesterday afternoon the Labour Congress through its General Secretary, Mr. Carl Tull said that at the request of the AWU, Congress had intervened in the dispute which was caused by the delay in completing a three-year industrial agreement for the Corporation's 3,000 daily paid establishment.

Mr. Tull explained that Congress was communicating with the Labour Minister, seeking his early intervention.

He added:

"The executive of Congress is expected to meet in special session to discuss these burning issues and to decide what assistance will be given to the AWU."

"Congress is monitoring the situation and will make a further statement on the matter as it develops."

BRIEFS

FIRST MERCHANT BANK--Trinidad and Tobago opened its first merchant bank, a joint venture between the National Commercial Bank (NCB) and Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas (Paribas) yesterday. A statement issued yesterday for the new bank said operations started immediately. NCB holds 60 percent shares while Paribas has the remaining 40. The bank is at 45 Abercromby Street and its services include medium term lending, project financing and financial advisory services for the private and public sectors. The board of directors is headed by Mr Phillip Rochford, chairman and managing director of NCB. Other members are NCB's deputy managing director, Mr Ganace Ramdial, Mr Michael Warner general manager/corporate, and Mr Norman Girwar, solicitor and director of NCB. Paribas's members on the board are Mr Claude de Kemoularia, adviser, and chairman of Paribas, Mr Patrick Deveaud, executive vice president of overseas finance, and Mr Michael Jacquet, senior vice president responsible for overseas operations. The chief executive of the merchant bank is Mr Patrick Allan, a vice president. He established a Paribas subsidiary in Nigeria last year.

[Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 30 Apr 82 p 1]

CSO: 3025/290

COUNTRY SECTION

URUGUAY

BRIEFS

WEEKLY TEMPORARILY CLOSED--Montevideo, 15 May (AFP)--The Uruguayan Government has closed the liberal-leaning weekly LA PLAZA for eight editions for having made comments which are damaging to the essence of the present political process, an official communique has reported. The communique states that the publication, which is published at the Canelones department--which adjoins Montevideo--has been carrying in successive issues adverse propaganda to the measures of institutionalization adopted in the country thus giving a totally distorted view of the national reality. [Text] [PY280052 Paris AFP in Spanish 1244 GMT 14 May 82]

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